

SPOTLIGHT

Seend & Bulkington

THE CLEEVE OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 8th June 1-6pm

**PLANT STALL, TEAS, HOMEMADE CAKES
AND ICE CREAM.**

**Tickets £10.00 includes parking and Shuttle
Service.**

In aid of Seend Church funds



ALL WELCOME.

Contact Tina Yockney

01380 827139 / 07837930877

tinayockney@btinternet.com



June 2024

DIARY DATES FOR LATE MAY 2024

29th Nosh and Natter Lunch Club Seend Community Centre 12.30pm

29th Brewery Quiz Night

DIARY DATES FOR JUNE 2024

5th Seend Shuttle to Salisbury

5th Bulkington Village Lunch at The Well 12.00 for 12.30

6th D-Day 80th Anniversary Commemoration flag at Seend Church, 9am

6th Lighting of the Beacon at The Seend Community Centre 9.30pm

7th First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30am

8th Seend Cleeve Open Gardens, 1-6pm

8th Polka Dot Peaches + DJ, Seend Community Centre, 7.30pm

10th Bulkington Tea, Craft and Chat Group 2-4pm

17th Mobile Library: Seend The Lye 9.40, Seend Cleeve The Telephone box
10.05, Bulkington The Well Inn car park 11.05.

22nd Summer Celebration Concert at Seend Church 7.30pm

25th Nosh and Natter Lunch club Seend Community Centre 12.30pm

25th Brewery Quiz

30th Fawltly Players present 'That's Life', Community Centre 7.30pm



Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion & Seend Lye Field

Available for parties, meetings, sports events.

Book online: www.seendlyefield.org or

email: seendlrf@gmail.com

SEEND COMMUNITY LINK SCHEME

Trouble getting **out and about**? We can help with **transport**.

Link is a team of **volunteers** who assist residents in the area who are **elderly** or incapacitated and are **unable to use public transport**.

For more information or to join us as a volunteer driver please get in touch.

Telephone 07532 055560 - www.seend.org.uk/seend_link

Newcomer to Seend or Bulkington?

Visit www.seend.org.uk, www.bulkington.org.uk and the Spotlight, Seend Community Centre and Seend Village Group **facebook** pages

WELCOME TO JUNE 2024 SPOTLIGHT

We hope the weather stays good for all our summer activities in the coming few months. But a little bit of rain to make the gardens grow!



This month is the Open Gardens day in The Cleeve raising money for Seend Church. The Royal British Legion D-Day anniversary celebrations. A National celebration which we will be a part of. And Fawlty fun and all the other activities listed within these pages.

Spotlight Contacts: Contributions for the July 2024 edition (copy by Saturday 15th June 2024) can be emailed to spotlight@seend.org.uk or delivered to Seend Post & Provisions. Editors: Tessa Doe (07719 917814) Sue Isaac (828461) and Jan Field (827140). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to individuals – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401), Jan Field (827140) for printing and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Potential volunteer deliverers or printers can contact Fiona or Jan. **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 editors (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 to 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 or jpg files of posters etc as they require a specific shape and space. Word documents (or compatible) – without any fancy formatting - give us the flexibility to adapt your wording and pictures to fit the space available. Thank you.

THE SEEND FUND - A REMINDER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

If you find yourself in financial difficulties, struggling to keep warm or pay for food, the fund is here to help. In the past it has contributed towards a variety of things:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| * Rent Payment | * School Trips | * Food |
| * Household fuel | * Medical Equipment | * Vet bills |
| * Electrical appliances | * Musical instruments | * Training |
| * School and work clothes | * Wheelchairs | |

Remember the Seend fund is your local fund. Anyone living in or closely associated with Seend, including our close neighbours in Bulkington and Poulshot, can apply by emailing the secretary (anitashea@hotmail.co.uk) or writing to her at 34 Seend Cleeve, Melksham SN12 6PY.

The Trustees promise complete confidentiality. Please don't hesitate to contact the fund, saying how much you need, what for and when you need it by. The fund can't make regular or huge donations but may be able to help carry you over to better times.

SEEND EVENTS IN JUNE AND BEYOND



AT THE HEART OF
OUR COMMUNITY

First Friday Coffee Mornings on the 7th June and 5th July from 10.30am in the Lounge. Come and enjoy freshly made real coffee or tea (plus a refill) and delicious home-made cakes for just £2.50. Everyone welcome! No need to book.



Nosh and Natter Lunches

The monthly lunch club meets at 12 for 12.30pm on Wednesday 26th June. Please book in advance for all lunch dates by calling Pauline on 01380 828638 or Fiona on 828401. Two courses for £7.50; lovely home-made dishes prepared and served by the excellent N+N team!

TGI Fridays Every Friday from 6:30 pm. Club members and guests meet in the Members' Bar. Come along and find out what's going on in and around the village. The popular First Friday of the Month Free Snacks have returned! The First Friday dates are 7th and June 5th July.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 6th June Across the nation beacons will be lit at 9.15pm in Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings on the beaches of Normandy. The Seend beacon will be lit at the Community Centre. Free entry all welcome.

Saturday 8th June 7.30pm - The Polka Dot Peaches, a vintage vocal harmony group bringing the sounds of the 40s and 50s. Plus, the **Sound Images Road Show** playing hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s. Seend Royal British Legion Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy.

Tickets £18 from Robin Heatley 01380 828491 or at the Seend Community Centre.

Sunday 30th June - Seend Fawltly Players present 'That's Life!' – a typical Fawltly entertainment about the several ages of man (and woman!). 7 for 7.30pm. **Tickets** £10, to include an interval supper, available from early June at the Centre or call or text 07719 917814. Proceeds to the Community Centre.

2024/25 COMMUNITY CENTRE MEMBERSHIP

Please consider renewing your membership or becoming a member.

Adult £15.00, Seniors £12.50, Juniors £5.00

Members have access to the Lounge Bar where they can buy drinks at competitive prices, play darts and snooker. They may bring guests into the Lounge. And also receive discounted rates for room and hall hire.

Membership is available at seendcommunitycentre.com. Or sign up at the bar.

Bar opening times

Weds, Thurs & Sat from 7pm. Friday from 6pm. Sun 12 –4pm

*To keep up to date with information and events visit: seendcommunitycentre.com
And Box Office: seendcommunitycentre.com/box-office*



BREWERY INN EVENTS
Quiz Night– Wednesday 26th June

THE CLEEVE OPEN GARDENS - Saturday 8th June 1-6pm

Plant Stall, Teas, homemade cakes and ice cream.
Tickets £10.00 includes parking and Shuttle Service. In aid of Seend Church funds.

Donations of cakes and plants would be much appreciated -
also help with car parking and teas?

ALL WELCOME. Contact Tina Yockney
01380 827139 / 07837930877 / tinayockney@btinternet.com



The Philomel Singers present
A Summer Celebration Concert
Conductor: Michael Johnson
with guests from the Devizes Eisteddfod
Church of the Holy Cross, Seend

Saturday, 22 June 2024 at 7.30pm

Tickets: £10 (£8 in advance)/£4 students/children (£2 in advance)

Telephone: 07977 576647

or from www.wegotickets.com/ThePhilomelSingers



SEEND ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy.

See in the Community Centre entry above, and the RBL entry on page 11 for full details of events on 6th & 8th June.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND VILLAGE INFORMATION

Please let us know of any births, marriages, deaths, special birthdays, thanks, useful information etc that you would like to see included here. N.B. We are aware that not everybody we lose from our villages gets an obituary or notice printed here.

We rely on information from friends and family for this to happen.

GORDON WILLIAM HELPS - JULY 1934 - 28TH APRIL 2024

A great husband, dad, grandad and great-grandad. Known by many, a long time resident of the village, which he loved dearly. For years he was the Big Heads Cricket captain, playing alongside many other village greats. There will be an eternal barrel of Wacky at your next stop Gordy. Funeral to be held at Semington Crematorium on Friday 31st May at 2pm. Family flowers only, but donations can be made for The Donkey Sanctuary. A celebration of Gordy's love of life will be held afterwards at Seend Community Centre where he will expect you to enjoy a glass or two in his memory.

SEEND VILLAGE FETE NEWS – Saturday 10th August



Firstly, we'd like to thank the following businesses for generously supporting the Fete, either as a Lead sponsor, donations or through paid advertising: Melksham Motor Spares, Perma Collective, Dolmans, Windsmere and Wansbroughs.

We are still seeking a few more local businesses to pledge their support so please, if you are interested and able, drop us an email as soon as able..

Sponsoring the Seend Village Fete not only gives your company great local exposure but also fosters the warm glow of community spirit. Contact seendfete@gmail.com or reach out directly to Jan at 07919 278 503.

Keeping this update simple and to the point... Volunteers! Now is the time that we start building our army of helpers, both in the run up to the Fete and on the day of the itself. If you've not helped before, then this is your calling. We need folks to put out roadside signage, manage stalls, park cars and tidy up once the Fete has closed!

Stay in the loop with all the latest updates and interact with us by following our Facebook page @seendfete and visiting our website at seendfete.org.

Warm regards, Team Fete
#teamseend

SEEND FLOWER SHOW 2024

The Seend Flower Show will be held on **Saturday the 10th August 2024** in the Community Centre. Doors will be open for viewing at 1pm. We are pleased to say that this year we celebrate our 75th Seend Flower Show. Apparently, 75 years is known as a semi - sesquicentennial year. No extra points for correct pronunciation! We've three classes where you can use the 75 theme, the floral speciality piece, cup-cakes or perhaps the novelty/showstopper cake.

Your support by exhibiting items or by just coming along to have a look should create a really good show. Last year we had a record number of 753 exhibits. We would love to beat that this year.

We are also appealing for volunteers on the day, please let us know if you would like to be involved. Call Julia on 01380 827082 or contact a committee member. We would also welcome sponsors, donations and advertisers, please contact us should you wish to contribute.

All cup holders from last year (2023) please return your cups to Jackie by the 30 June, 3 Hillcrest, School Road, Seend, SN12 6NL 01380 828171. Or call Julia on 01380 827082 if we need to collect them from you.

The Flower Show entries Schedule and Programme booklet will accompany August's Spotlight. This and the entry form will also be available to download from our website closer to the time at <https://www.seendflowershow.org.uk> Flower Show email enquiries to: seendflowershowentry@gmail.com

Julia White, SFS, Chair



CHURCH NEWS

I've been lucky enough to do a bit of travelling recently, some of it related to my academic work, some of it for leisure. One striking thing is how airports, only ever variations a theme at any time, have become nearly the same all over the world. Not only do they contain the same signs and follow the same rules, with the shops and the same brands, but often a highly mobile workforce that crosses continents regularly.

The 21st Century has had a tendency to flatten everything. All over the world, even in places with very different political systems or religious allegiances, people wear the same clothes and listen to the same music. From buses in Armenia to trains in Zambia, I have witnessed people glued to the same smartphones which are dominated by the same apps – the red and white of YouTube, blue and white of Facebook, orange and purple of Instagram. I see the same on the number 49 from Devizes to Trowbridge.

It can feel like everywhere has become like anywhere, yet we know that some places simply feel different, in some undefinable and timeless way. I often sense that at Avebury, especially in the quieter sites away from the village centre. Stonehenge can have this sense too, at least if one can manage to visit when the crowds aren't around. Perhaps this is because of what happened there in the past, what intense emotions were felt there; from what little we genuinely know about those who built them, these were sites of intense devotion.

The great Christian places of pilgrimage often have that same, ineffable, sense of being somehow other. My most profound experience of this was at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. At first, I found it an irritating place. I had hoped that getting there at 5.30 pm would dodge the crowds—but no such luck! Then out of the blue, something made the hair stand on the back of my neck, and I was moved almost to tears.

We don't need to go as far as the Holy Land to find Christian holy places that overwhelm us with their sense of sanctity. Wells is somewhere that can, in the right light, feel like another world; its Cathedral is a place of great antiquity and holiness. It is a place where people often find rest from what troubles them and healing from what wounds them.

The Wellsprings Benefice is organising a pilgrimage to Wells on Wednesday 29 May, during half-term week. All are welcome to join us, whether or not they are churchgoers, whether or not they are Christians. We will have time for a picnic and to enjoy the city centre on market day, and a guided tour of the Cathedral, as well as time to pray together. The cost is £13. Please contact the Benefice Administrator, Sarah Leckie, on 07516 224057 or contact@wellspringsbenefice.co.uk to book your place.

The Rev'd Gerry Lynch, Rector

CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE 2024

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



Sunday 2nd (Trinity 1)

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
9:30am	Matins	Poulshot
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
11am	Morning Praise	Bulkington

Sunday 9th (Trinity 2)

9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong	Seend

Sunday 16th (Trinity 3)

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Bulkington
11am	Holy Communion (with baptism)	Potterne

Friday 21st

3:30pm	Messy Church	Potterne Village Hall
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Sunday 23rd (Trinity 4)

9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong	Poulshot
6pm	Holy Communion	Bulkington

Wednesday 26th

5pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot
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Sunday 30th (Trinity 5)

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Potterne
10:30am	Benefice Service on the Green	Poulshot Village Green
6pm	Deanery Choral Evensong	Potterne

Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

Tuesday Group meets each week at 10am in Potterne. Call 723289 for details.

From the Registers:

No baptisms, weddings or funerals this month.

Please visit our website www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.



BULKINGTON NEWS

Parish Clerk - Mrs. Tekla Hicks
07427 406943 clerk@bulkington.org.uk

Minutes of Bulkington Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Wednesday
9th May 2024 at 6.30pm at Bulkington Village Hall, Bulkington, Wiltshire.

Membership: Councillors P Oakey (Chair), C Haslam, A Breach, J Anderson-Hill, A Howard-Evans.

Present: Councillors P Oakey (Chair), C Haslam, A Breach, J Anderson-Hill, A Howard-Evans.

Wiltshire Councillor T Reay, E Speller of Swindon Borough Council

Member of Public – None

Proper Officer: T Hicks

Election of Chair for the Year 2024-25

Nominations will be sought for the position of Chair. Nominations received for Cllr Oakey. Agreed unanimously that Cllr Oakey would be Chair for 2024-25.

Election of Vice-Chair for the Year 2024-25

Nominations will be sought for Vice-Chair. Nominations received for Cllr Breach to be Vice-Chair. Agreed unanimously that Cllr Breach would be Vice-Chair for 2024-25.

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for those unable to attend. None.

Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest under the Parish Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011. None.

Reports from:

To receive an update from Wiltshire Councillor – Cllr Reay updated the meeting.

To receive an update from the Chair of the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th April 2024. Approved.

Matters arising from previous meetings: Moved to maintenance log.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow for public participation

Public Participation

To enable members of the public to address the Council regarding an item on the agenda. None.

To receive any petitions or deputations. None.

Appoint Councillor Portfolios:-

Finance and contracts and bank signatories – Cllr Oakey

Police Liaison – Cllr Anderson-Hill

Parish Stewards and LHFIFG – Cllr Breach

Clerk HR – Cllr Anderson-Hill
Defibrillator – Cllr Oakey
Insurance – Cllr Oakey
Emergency Team and Flooding – Cllr Breach
Website and IT – Cllr Howard-Evans
Planning – Cllr Howard-Evans
Village Hall Liaison – Cllr Howard-Evans
War Memorial – Cllr Anderson-Hill
Playing Field & Grounds maintenance – Cllr Breach

Planning Matters to discuss:

To note the BPC Planning Schedule as at 1st May 2024. None.

Any other any other applications received before the meeting. None.

Maintenance to include items as below:

To discuss and agree Parish Steward - Consideration of jobs for next visit – Clerk to contact PS to say sweeper is breaking up kerb stones.

To discuss and agree Maintenance Log – for ongoing items. Discussion regarding closing the layby at the entrance to Bulkington due to anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping. Agreed to move forward with applying to Wiltshire Council to close the layby and plant with trees/wildflowers.

Also noted was the broken finger post by Pinkney Farm crossroads.

To discuss and agree Playground update. Clerk updated the meeting that Inspect and Repair will be mending the zip-wire on 14th May 24.

To receive a proposal ref ‘Re-Elming Bulkington’. Presentation given by E Speller. See the presentation. The Council agreed this would be good for the village and would support an application. E Speller would apply for a grant on behalf of BPC and Cllr Reay to liaise regarding GAPS department. Cllrs agreed to pay E Speller’s expenses for repair of damage by deer of new planting on WBMF totalling £83.50.

Finance

Insurance Renewal

Members to approve the annual renewal of the Parish Council’s Insurance, and whether to enter a three year contract. Approved.

Payments for approval:

- a) WALC renewal - £112.84
- b) Clerk’s Salary May
- c) Clerk’s PAYE May
- d) Playdale playground final invoice £3310.96
- e) Julie Bailey for audit £230

To agree and approve BPC March and April banking financial statements with accounts listed up to and including 30th April 2024 along with financial summary sheet. Approved.

Annual Accounts 2023-24

Members to approve the annual accounts for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

Annual Internal Audit

Members to receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report. Noted.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023-24

Annual Governance Statement 2023-24

Members to approve the annual governance statement as outlined in Section 1 of the Annual Return and minute accordingly. Full statement attached. Approved.

Accounting Statements 2023-24

Members to approve the accounting statements as outlined in Section 2 of the Annual Return and minute accordingly. The Chair and Clerk are required to sign the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements which will be dealt with at the same time. Approved.

Exemption 2023-24

The Parish Council is declaring exemption and declares that during the financial year, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000. For approval. Approved.

The Clerk is setting the commencement date for the exercise of public rights as Monday 3rd June and ending on Friday 12th July 2024.

Governance

To discuss suggested Emergency/Resilience plans. Agreed to form a working party to discuss further and Cllr Howard-Evans to lead.

To review and adopt Communications Policy. Adopted.

To review and update Complaints Policy. Agreed.

To review and adopt Risk Assessment. Adopted.

Correspondence Received Since Last Meeting

Wiltshire Council Area Board Minutes 26/2/24. Noted.

To close the meeting – 7.15pm

BULKINGTON "100 CLUB"

The "100 Club" draw was held at the Village Lunch in The Well on the 1st May and the winners were :-

£30	No. 50	Sue Noad
£25	No. 56	Bev Kerslake
£20	No. 33	Karen Lock
£15	No. 26	Ruth Elliott
£10	No. 35	Sue Oakey



Thanks to our diners for their help with the draw !

Phyl Yarde

THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP



will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 10th June. Please phone Phyl Yarde 828116 for the venue. New people always welcome.

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

The Mobile Library will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on Monday 17th June 11.05 – 11.30 am.



The Bulkington Village Lunch

takes place on

Wednesday, 5th June at 12.15 for 12.30 at The Well.

Please 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.

BULKINGTON LADIES' GROUP

We are planning to visit The Caen Hill Community Farm. This has not been confirmed yet. I will get in touch later with the details.

Liz 828485

BULKINGTON VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

SEATING FOR UP TO 60 PERSONS - FULL DISABLED ACCESS

FROM £12. FOR A FIVE HOUR SESSION

TABLE TENNIS £5. AN HOUR

HEATING BY COIN METER

For further information phone Roger Futter 01380 828485

SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

SEEND AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS



Jo and Colin led a lovely walk at the end of April for eight members, the weather was perfect, the spring flowers were lovely - especially the bluebells. The area we walked beyond Great Bedwyn was new to us, with woods and pastureland. We saw our first swallows, a red kite or two and a kestrel. Thank you to Jo and Colin for leading the walk.

The next walk will be on Sunday 19th May and will be led by Bob &

Brenda in the Hawksbury Upton area, details will be sent out as usual.

June walk is on Sunday 16th, details will be sent out nearer the time.

Sandy 01380 739235



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

On 2 May, Kevin and Gavin erected the Soldier Silhouette in Seend churchyard by the RBL bench.

Thu 6 Jun – 9.00am – the D-Day 80 flag will be raised at the church to start the commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. The church bells will be rung at 6.30pm and in the evening at 9.15pm, the beacon will be lit at the Community Centre and Steve Cubberley, our Chairman, will recite the International Tribute. Please come along and join in this national event.

Sat 8 Jun – 7.30pm – Seend Community Centre. Tickets £18 from Robin Heatley 01380-828491 or Seend Community Centre.

POLKA DOT PEACHES and **SOUND IMAGES ROADSHOW**
singing 40s, 50s songs playing 60s, 70s, 80s music

All welcome. You don't have to be a member of the RBL to join us. Tickets selling fast!

SEEND 100 CLUB

No May draw to allow time for people to join for the new season. Lost your application form? Contact Alison as there is still time to add your name and be in with a chance of winning cash prizes!

Alison Bottomley
avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk



SEEND SHUTTLE

The next Salisbury shopping trip will be the 5th of June. We are very grateful to Neil who drove us on a lovely sunny May the 1st even though there were only three passengers. Hoping that more of you would like to come next time. As usual phone 828757 to book a seat.



Anita



SEEND WI

Sadly, our speaker for the May meeting was unable to attend. However, at short notice the Committee organised a games evening and a most enjoyable, if not hilarious, time was had by all. Rumour has it that some of the players are still trying to get past the pesky snakes on the snakes and ladder board!

Further details were given on the trip to the American Museum on 12th June, leaving Rusty Lane at 12.45pm. Looking further ahead to 10th July members can enjoy a talk by Mary Bentley on the RNLI.

Normally our regular meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, please contact Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511.

Joyce Harvey

SEEND THEATRE CLUB

The past month has been busy with both our AGM and Social evening, plus a trip to the Hippodrome in Bristol to see the much-acclaimed musical "Hamilton".



Our next event is a group visit at the beginning of July for "Macbeth" performed by Shakespeare Live in the grounds of Cleeve House. Other trips are being planned, including "Barnum" at the Watermill in August and "Messiah" at Bath Abbey in December.

We always welcome new members and if you are interested in finding out more, please contact either Ken (01380 828511) or email: membership.seendtheatreclub@gmail.com for an application form.

Ken Harvey

SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS

We shall be performing one of our occasional non-panto extravaganzas in the Peter Fisher Hall of the Community Centre on Sunday 30th June. Entitled 'That's Life!' it's a mix of (mostly comic!) readings, sketches and songs about the different stages in life from babyhood to old age. Details in the Seend Community Centre events section. Do come along.

SEEND C OF E SCHOOL - SEATS AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL BUS

We will have seats available on both school runs from the beginning of the new school year in September 2024 and look forward to welcoming new passengers of all school ages :-

Flexible pick up points, flexible days of travel and friendly drivers

Using the bus brings benefits for everyone :-

- Time saving for Mums and Dads
- Cost saving at only £1 per week per child
- Bus Buddy system in place for younger children
- More independence for the children
- Fun on the bus with their friends
- Help the environment by reducing the traffic at the school

First run is Bowerhill/Sells Green/Martinslade/Bulkington to school for the Breakfast Club.

Second run is Seend Cleeve/Brewery/New Buildings to school.

To make an enquiry or a booking please call or text Nick Jackson on 07836 747849 or email at nick.e.jackson@outlook.com

VOLUNTEER DRIVER NEEDED FOR SCHOOL BUS

We are looking for a volunteer driver to join our team to help drive the school bus during term times starting from September 2024.

You would be joining a one in five rota driving for a week at a time mornings only for about an hour per day. All you will need is a D1 driving licence and a sense of humour!

If you are interested in joining us to support this essential and much appreciated community service please contact Nick Jackson on 07836 747849 or Pete Wallis on 07734 303919 for further information

SEEND SCHOOL NEWS

The children at Seend have been super busy this term! Below are a couple of highlights, as well as an exciting opportunity we'd like to share.



Residential to Braeside

A recent highlight has been our Y3/4 residential to Braeside. Our trip was jam packed with fun activities including canal walk, wall climbing and we had a go on the zip wire! The following day we enjoyed fire building, low ropes, archery and a talent show in the evening. We were really impressed by the balance and coordination displayed on the low ropes course. We learnt how to maintain a fire and even got a tasty treat to toast! We also took part in an activity called "the lifeline" which tested our core strength and team work skills as we went down some steep hills attached to a rope. After this, we put our eyesight to the test with some archery. We had a few practice goes and then a little competition.

The children were courageous, resilient and showed excellent support for one another as they cheered each other on. We are super proud of them!

Easter Experience and Service

We all came together at Easter to remember Jesus' sacrifice. We enjoyed the Easter Experience Holy Cross put on for us where we recalled the events of Holy Week. Following this, our Worship Leaders helped us reflect upon this further during our Church Service. We added white lilies to our cross as they had sprouted in the garden all those years ago. We can now think of a lily as a representation of Jesus' resurrection.

Governors Wanted!

Seend School are seeking Governors to join the Local Governing Body. We have a fantastically supportive team already and are looking to expand this.

The school have the following governor vacancies:

1 (possibly 2) Parent Governors

4 Foundation Governors - Foundation governors must fall within one of the following groups:

- 'Actual communicant' and church electoral roll member within the Church of England Subject
- Regular worshipper at Church of England services
- Regular worshipper within one of the Member Churches of 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland'
- By exception, an individual may be appointed as Foundation governor being a Christian who is not a regular worshipper at one the churches listed above but is committed to the tenets of the Apostles' Creed

To find out more about the governor role please contact the Chair of Governors Mr Chris Downham (cdownham@gov.twhf.org.uk). For an application pack which also includes details of the expectation please email the Clerk, Danny Holland 3schoolsclerk@gov.twhf.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to the Governing Body.

(There are two photos of Seend School activities above in the online colour supplement)

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

This month Keevil Primary School received a SSAT Educational Outcomes Award for Exceptional Pupil Attainment. The Key Stage 2 SSAT award was given in recognition of being in the top 20% of schools nationally for pupil attainment in 2023.

Not only did the children have to deal with the huge social impacts resulting from Covid, but at the start of term, all pupils were behind educationally. The final results underline what a fantastic job our teachers and support staff have done to help them achieve these results, and they fully deserve this special recognition.

Keevil School's free preschool Forest School began in May. The children made clay animals, balanced on the timber trail, found fossils and dinosaur bones buried in the soil, and made outdoor music. However, jumping in our muddy puddle seemed to be the most popular activity!

We are hugely grateful to Wickes in Trowbridge for supporting the Forest School through their Community Project funding scheme. They donated many new tools and a new water butt for our pupils and pre-school children to use during their Forest School sessions. Please call the school office to book onto the next available dates: Wednesday 5th June, Wednesday 3rd July 2024. The sessions are completely free of charge, aimed at 3 to 4 year old children and their parents/carers, start at 1.30pm, and run for 90 minutes.

(For photo see the Spotlight online colour supplement.)

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

April PC meeting

Attendance - nine Councillors, Cllr Tamara Reay, three members of the public & the Clerk.

Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)

During the evening of 22nd April, a large coach had a minor collision with a car just north of the Canal Bridge, Bollands Hill. With minimal damage and no injuries recorded, Police were not called to the scene. The Clerk has written to Highways requesting they reconsider the Parish Council's request for advance width restriction signs to be placed at the A361/365 entrances to Bollands Hill.

Another accident at the Bell Crossroads on 17th April involved 4 vehicles. The impact was so severe it resulted into two vehicles leaving the carriageway with one in the NW Corner of the junction in the Allotment Hedge, The other against the barriers of the Bell Inn. A third vehicle ended up on the side of the A361 adjacent to entrance to the Bell Inn Car Park and a fourth vehicle remained on the carriageway. Despite the Chairman writing to Highways regarding the increased accident rate at this location, no reply has been received. As this issue is a key concern within the Parish Cllr Reay agreed to follow this up with the Head of Highways and provide a response.

Bradley Lane & Rusty Lane: The Rights of Way (RoW) team advised they would be arranging a survey of the dead trees at the bottom of Rusty Lane in the vicinity of the canal swing bridge and have requested a contractor to visit both locations. A quote has been received for the work but as yet not shared with the Parish Council. The Clerk to contact the local stables regarding the surface for Bradley Lane.

Parking Spout Lane & Canal Bridge Seend Cleeve: This was raised at the LHFIG meeting 17th April. It was agreed the Highways Engineer would visit to see what can be undertaken to improve the situation.

Cllr Reay attended a meeting with Michelle Donelan MP and representatives of the Canal & River Trust (CRT) on April 12th. CRT agreed to arrange a visit by one of their Revenue Collection Officers.

Speedwatch: The Clerk has requested a project be allocated to LHFIG to install supporting street furniture for the new Speed Indicator Devices.

The team continues to carry out regular speed checks and would like more volunteers. If you could spare a few hours please contact either Debbie Savage (debbie.savage@seendparishcouncil.co.uk) or John Williams (john.williams@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

Planning Applications

The Parish Council raised no objections to the following applications:

PL/2024/01340 - Ivy Cottage, High Street - Replace existing extension, extend roof dormer to match existing LHS dormer.

PL/2024/03195 - The Bell Inn - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on PL/2021/11213 to change the parking layout, as well as realign the boundary between Houses 2&3 make some minor internal changes to Houses 1&2.

PL/2024/03274 - 56 Sells Green - Outline application for the erection of 2 No. single storey dwellings.

PL/2024/03269 - Land to the rear of 7 The Stocks - Erection of 1 self-build dwelling. (Outline application relating to access)

Devizes Area Board

The next Area Board will take place on 3rd June 2024

Best Kept Village

Seend has entered the Best Kept Village competition and judging will take place between 6th May – 7th June 2024.

Finance

The Parish Council has moved to online banking

Bank Reconciliation at end of April 2024, was **£45,023.47**

Dates of next Parish Council meeting:

28th May 7pm at the Community Centre

A full copy of the minutes is available on the Parish Council Website

Wiltshire and Swindon



Wiltshire Police's Melksham Custody suite has reopened after undergoing major refurbishment works to make the force more fit for the 21st century. The investment of £3.7m was approved by Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson last year to ensure the facility was fit for purpose and to provide a safer experience for detainees, staff and officers.

Improvement works have included newly refreshed cells with Qibla pointers for Muslim detainees, autism friendly colour schemes, and higher security observation doors for detainee and staff safety. An improved air lock and secure alarm system will also mean better security, and a refresh of the custody desk with wider and taller screens enables privacy and soundproofing, while meeting the latest Home Office guidelines.

The custody suite first closed on Monday 20 February 2023 and since then Wiltshire Police has processed all detainees at Gablecross Custody in Swindon.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: "Wiltshire Police now has a custody suite which is fit for the 21st century, meets Home Office compliance advice as well as HMICFRS inspection criteria. This in turn will help to improve future Wiltshire Police PEEL reports and overall custody standards."



SEEND SPORTING AND DRAMA NEWS



Football: Having won the first division of the Trowbridge and District League, Seend were unlucky to not follow up the league success with cup trophies. Having lost to Warminster in the Knock Out cup by the narrowest of margins on 20th April, they again slipped up against Collegians Reserves, 0-1, in the A and B cup on 27th April.

However Seend, under manager Andy Dyer, must be pleased with winning the league, playing 14, winning 11, drawing 1 and losing just 2 matches. Finishing on 34 points, 8 clear of the runners up.

Tennis: The good news is that under the guidance and incessant hard work of Sally Jackson the resurfacing works are now well under way with the prospect of you all playing on Seend's new courts, which belong to the Lye Field, just a few weeks away. However the works including a new access, gate and perimeter netting, are still going to cost a few thousand pounds over the monies raised so far, so if you wish to contribute to this important village asset then please contact the club treasurer Philippa Jackson on 828224 without delay.

The mixed and men's teams continue to play in the Chippenham and district league with victory in the mixed on 29th April against Malmesbury 7-1, which result put Seend, temporarily, at the top of the table, and wins and losses for the men's leaving them in a reasonable mid table position.

Short Mat Bowls: I did go and watch some of the first match of the season against Melksham and Shaw at the weekend, and in a thrilling finish Seend won 4-3 with the final bowl of the day! The tension was too much for some of us who had to prematurely retreat to the bar from where we could hear Colin's cries of victory. Well done all !

Drama: I nearly missed this month's Spotlight as I had to abandon my typewriter the other night to assist with Wessex Water following the blocking of one of the main village sewers that runs across our property. We were out there until well after midnight last Wednesday and thanks to the wonderful Olly from Wessex Water, complete with pipes, cameras, pumps and various devices, the blockage was eventually cleared with the clean up team removing and replacing gravel and disinfecting the contaminated area the next day.

I asked Olly what caused such a massive blockage that, if not cleared, would have eventually led to the bathrooms in the properties discharging into that sewer being visited by foul effluent.

His answer was just two words, "WET WIPES"....as he pulled a few more from the pile of sewage that was blocking the mains drain. His advice to you all is not to put dreaded wet wipes down the loo, try the waste bin instead.

Anyhow thank you Olly and all at Wessex Water.

Frankie Goddard 828488

NURTURE NATURE



Having survived a miserable and inhospitable spring, our garden birds especially are having a hard time. A blackbird built a beautiful nest in early spring only to abandon it due to the unfavorable weather. She has since rebuilt, and she and her cock bird have managed to get a small brood through to fledgling stage having survived the increasing number of hazards and predators, the latter being corvids, grey squirrels, cats and the local marauding sparrowhawk. The only other birds in our garden are accentors, a robin or two (not our usual resident robins of over several years that probably didn't survive the very cold conditions in December) and a wren plus the occasional tit. Over wintering blackcaps were few, and other winter migrants were scarce too where traditionally one saw redwings, fieldfares, and Bewick swans at WWT sites as more land is developed with housing, industry and solar panels.

We are losing acres of traditional farm land where birds feed so the corvids are turning to residential gardens and feeding stations for food and thus depriving the native small birds of their regular sources. It is now a common site to see a dozen or so rooks taking off when one draws back the curtains in the morning. Rooks especially are very crafty at getting food from the most sophisticated of feeders with their hammer drill beaks. Some folk have removed their feeding stations due to the incessant filching of food by corvids. Gone are the house sparrows, starlings and the finches. This bodes ill for our already declining garden bird populations. Our situation might be extreme, however other residents in our village and further afield are reporting similar declines and intrusions. Some plan to give up feeding completely – especially if they also have the very bold wood pigeons as residents – fouling bird baths and spreading disease.

As for summer visitors – the writer's family have yet to see a single hirondine, though swifts were reported to have arrived early in Yorkshire - who has seen any, or heard a chiff chaff in their usual haunts? Other warbler species too are fewer, and who has heard a cuckoo? Worldwide the picture is bleaker in some areas – the South African penguin is nearing extinction as its habitat is destroyed by human activity, pollution, over fishing and increasing shipping activity. One good piece of news for the Yorkshire coast is the recovery of puffin and kittiwake numbers due to the banning of sand eel extraction. 2023 was the hottest year since modern records began, as hot as the temperature 2,000 years ago. How do the scientists know this? By counting the growth rings in the trunks of ancient tree species which provide information about the climate at the time.

By the way, who's seen a bat this year so far? We haven't, and always have in previous years. So changing climate patterns are predicted to have ever more negative effects on Planet Earth. Anyone who is lucky enough to hear a nightingale, please post the info on your local Facebook and inform your county website. Finally, who's seen or heard the large maybug, the noisy cockchafer, barging its way towards lights and scaring young children? They are quite harmless, although the Asian Hornet is not, as described in this column last year. Should you see any, you should report this to DEFRA.

Otis Tarda

(See the online colour supplement for the picture of Sir Edward Grey's hat with the robin)

BITS AND BOBS



Melksham Flower Club

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month
at 2pm in Seend Community Centre.
This month's meeting 18th June.

Devizes Flower Club

Meet on the 3rd Wednesday every month upstairs in Devizes Town Hall
7pm for 7.30pm Visitors £6 on the door. Annual subscription £35.
Contact us: devizesflowerclubuk@gmail.com - Facebook:
[@DevizesFlowerClub](#) Instagram: [devizes_flowerclub](#)



We have some wonderful gardens opening for us. Sadly Hazelbury Manor, Foxley Manor and River Barn will not be opening as detailed in this link, but so many others to choose from, gardens of all sizes and groups of village gardens, something for everyone. Please note that a superb garden near Ramsbury will be opening as a pop up on 13th June.



EDINGTON ARTS

Edington Priory Church - annual Choral Workshop, on Saturday June 15th. King's Singer Chris Bruerton on music from Eastern Europe, sung in English or Latin. Book online from www.edingtonarts.org ; the cost is £25, which includes mid-morning refreshments. Contact Anne at anne@edingtonarts.org or Chrissy on 01380 831256 if you need any help.

It is with great sadness that we record the death of John Bush, Edington Arts' first and founding Chairman, an office he held for eight years.

John was a kind, generous and loyal friend to Edington Arts and a strong supporter of what we have tried to do; he chaired our Board meetings with a modest positivity which gave us freedom to explore all sorts of options, and discuss problems with honesty and confidence.

There are many, many people who will miss him on a personal level, and many more for the work he did with his other charities and causes. Edington Arts is so grateful for the time and attention he gave to us out of his busy life.

We will be dedicating the remainder of this our tenth season to him, in his memory.

Rowdefest

Saturday 1st June 12.00—5.00pm

At The Small Playing field in Rowde (off Tower View SN10 2NB)

Live entertainment all afternoon

Food, fun & games & a variety of stalls

For more information contact barbarazaccrelli@yahoo.com

Free entry

Dauntsey's Choral Society's Summer concert



Friday 7th June at 7.30pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Urchfont.

To include popular opera choruses, classic jazz and Gilbert & Sullivan – something for everyone! Admission is free with a retiring collection in aid of St. Michael & All Angels Church and the Choral Society.



D DAY ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS IN KEEVIL

Events between 6th-9th June include a Military Aircraft Display on Keevil Airfield, a display in the church, a pub singalong, procession, dance night, picnic, candles for peace and much more. **Details and updates can be viewed on keevilvillage.com/whats-on/d-day80/**

Worton and Marston Open Gardens

8th & 9th June 2024 12pm - 5pm

Tickets available from Worton Village Hall, SN10 5SE

Suggested donation of £5 per adult - Children free

Teas at the Church in Worton - Market Stalls - Plant Stall

In aid of Julia's House & Village Causes

FURLONG CLOSE SUMMER FÊTE

Marsh Lane, Rowde SN10 2TQ

Saturday 22nd June 2024 2.30 - 5.00 pm

Devizes Town Band, Arts & Crafts, Traditional Entertainment, BBQ,

Rowdey Cow Ice Cream and much, much more



Lavington Community Choir Summer Concert will be held on Friday 5th July at 7.30pm in Market Lavington Community Hall. Tickets will be £8 and available on sale at St. Arbucks, Market Lavington and Devizes Books in June.

The programme will include a mixture of classical, popular and jazz music.

The West Lavington Village Fete

SATURDAY 6th JULY from 2pm

The West Lavington Village Fete is back on **Saturday July 6th**, from 2pm on the Village Playing Field. There will be all the popular attractions at the Fete, including the **Fun Family Dog Show** (“the best run in the area!”), a **Bouncy Castle** and the fantastic **Grand Prize Draw**, plus children’s games and lots of stalls. Parking and entry is free!

To keep you entertained and refreshed throughout the afternoon there will be music from the **Amesbury Town Band** and dancing from the **Devizes Morris Dancers**, plus homemade teas from the WI in the Village Hall, and a drinks tent.

Why not enter your faithful friend in the West Lavington Fete **Dog Show!** Entries cost just £3 per class and will be taken at the Fete on the day and throughout from 2pm. The first Class starts at 2.30pm. There are eight classes:

Golden Oldie (over 7 years)
Prettiest Bitch
Most Handsome Dog
Best Puppy (under 1 year)

Waggiest Tail
Musical sits
Best Sausage Catcher!
Plus Best in Show

The Class prizes are generously donated by Rangebourne Pets of Devizes.

THE WILTSHIRE GUILD OF SPINNERS, WEAVERS & DYERS TEXTILE STUDIOS

HOMEGROWN Textiles Exhibition: A field to fashion project exploring how to produce clothing using locally grown fibres and dye.

Thursday 1st August - Sunday 4th August 2024 10:30 - 16:00. Free Entry.

3 St Mary's School Buildings, Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire BA14 6EU

For further information please see www.wiltshireguildswd.org

Do have a look at this month’s edition of the online colour supplement for pictures, including the famous Seend Beer Festival, sightings of the Northern Lights, the new soldier silhouette, school activities and more. Go to seend.org.uk and just click on Spotlight and then on June online colour supplement – available shortly

And finally

Why did the tightrope walker visit the bank?

To check his balance.

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

Church: Rector Rev Gerry Lynch. Email rev@gerrylynch.co.uk Tel. 07521 440622

Assoc. Priest Rev. Caroline O'Neil 828302 (p/t)

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, 828557.

Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513; Bulkington: Mrs Liz Futter 828485, Mike Rose 01249 248516; LPAs: Liz Futter 828485, Len Murray 828513, Sue Noad 870343,

Sue Rose 01249 248516, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139.

Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.

Irene Usher Pavilion bookings – www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html or 828970

Bulkington Village Hall - Roger and Liz Futter 828485

Seend Community Centre – To contact please e-mail seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com

Seend Shuttle: Enquiries: seendshuttle@gmail.com or Alison 07951 030491

Seend Parish Council Clerk – Mr Chris Stirland clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk Seend's

Wiltshire Councillor – Tamara Reay 07711824864 tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Seend Village Website: www.seend.org.uk – webmaster Neil Yockney 827139.

Seend School – 828334

Bulkington Website: www.bulkington.org.uk

Bulkington Parish Council—theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk

Rights of Way Warden – Paul Millard, 01225 712821

Devizes Area Board – 01225 718352 Support Officer: tara.shannon@wiltshire.gov.uk

MP: Danny Kruger - email:danny.kruger.mp@parliament.uk Devizes Office 01380 711425

Police Community Support, Sgt Kerena Walters, kerena.walters@wiltshire.police.uk

100+Club Draw-Alison Bottomley -
avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk

Book Clubs - the original: June May
827169 / 07590 818750 -

the other: Frank Teasdale 07719 918310

Cricket Club - Brian Hunt 828581

Day Schools -Tessa Doe 07719 917814

Fawltly Players Panto Group - Tessa Doe
07719 917814

Fete-see Lye Field

Flower Show -Julia White 01380 827082

Football -Jake Sainsbury

FoSS - friendsofseendschool@gmail.com

Historic Houses Club - Debbie Savage
07753 311996 or Neil Yockney 827139

LINK Scheme - 075320 55560

Lye Field - www.seendlyefield.org

Neighbourhood Watch -

Seend - Brian Hunt 828581

Sells Green - Cavan Moroney 828606

Seend Cleeve - Owen Burton 828820

theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk

Preschool -(Playleader) Rose Dick
828003

Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 07719 917814

Ramblers - Sandy James 01380 739235

Royal British Legion - Sec:Dave Beaumont
07538 651712, Welfare: Christine O'Reilly
07791 157060 / 01380 828888

Seend Baby & Toddler Group - Eleanor
Braney 07947 867701

SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com

Seend CLT - www.seendclt.org

info@seendclt.org

Seend Fund - Anita Shea 828757

Short Mat Bowls Club - Colin Waldeck 01225
736092

Table tennis - Chris Brooker, 828047

Tennis Club - seendtennisclub@gmail.com

Theatre Club - Ken Harvey 828511 -

membership.seendtheatreclub@gmail.com

Wheelchairs to borrow - Sue and Graham

Jones in Seend Cleeve, tel: 01380 828354

WI - Fiona Johnson on 828401 and Joyce

Harvey 828511

Wine Circle - Steve Parsons 07974 347487 or

Simon McManus 07896 711764



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letterbox or pay by BACS: J P McCormack, 40-19-16; 81508148)



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Shop and Cafe:

09.00 - 17.00 **Monday to Friday**
(except **Wednesdays** 14.00 close)

Saturday 9.00—14.00

Sunday Closed

PO:

09.00—17.00 **Monday to Friday**
(except **Wednesdays** 14.00 close)

Closed **Saturday and Sunday**

(see Seend Post & Provisions facebook page for notice of any changes)

Free delivery within Seend area on orders over £20.00