

SPOTLIGHT

SEEND & BULKINGTON

Seend
Summer
Saturday
Breakfasts
return on
25th July.
Details inside.



July 2026

DIARY DATES FOR LATE JUNE

- 24th Nosh & Natter Lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12.30 pm
24th Brewery Inn Quiz Night

DIARY DATES FOR JULY

- 1st Salisbury Shuttle shopping trip
1st Bulkington Village Lunch, Well Inn, 12.15pm
3rd First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Centre, Peter Fisher Hall, 10.30am
4th Bulkington Summer Coffee Morning, Bulkington Village Hall, 10.30am-12 noon
11th Tribute to the 80s, Seend Centre, 7pm
12th Bath Opera 'The Elixir of Love', Seend Centre, 6.30 for 7pm
13th Mobile Library 9.40 am Seend, the Lye. 10.05 am Seend Cleeve **opposite the Brewery**, 11.00 am. Bulkington, The Well Inn car park
15th Flower Show cups to be returned to Jackie Hamblin
18th LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO AUGUST/SEPTEMBER SPOTLIGHT
25th First Summer Saturday Breakfast of 2026, Seend Centre, 8.30-10.30am
26th Seend Ramblers walk
29th Brewery Inn Quiz Night

DIARY DATES FOR EARLY AUGUST

- 1st Summer Saturday Breakfast, Seend Centre, 8.30-11.30am
8th Seend Fete and Flower Show



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, Bulkington, Seend Community Centre and Seend Village Group **facebook** pages

WELCOME TO JULY 2026 SPOTLIGHT

Here's hoping for a pleasant summery July, with pleasant summery village events to fill it – including Summer Saturday Breakfasts starting on 25th July! Plus World Cup, Wimbledon and other sporting occasions will keep us well entertained.



DONATIONS TO SPOTLIGHT FUNDS

It's not too late to contribute to our running expenses. **You can pay by BACS to:** a/c name Seend PCC Melksham, sort code 09-01-28, a/c no. 37153587.

Or you can take cash in the brown envelope included in June's magazine to the following drop off points:

Philippa Jackson at Moiety Farm. Sells Green

Fiona Johnson at 20 Dial Close, Seend

Tessa Doe at 6 New Buildings, Seend Cleeve

Sue Isaac at 55 Seend Cleeve

Jan Field at 28c Seend Cleeve

Seend Centre during opening hours

Contributions for the August/September issue by 18th July

- Always email spotlight@seend.org.uk (including photos for the online colour supplement)
- You should get a receipt of your item by the Monday after deadline. If not, you should contact one of the Editors. Who are -
Tessa Doe 07719 917814, Sue Isaac 07779 075383, Jan Field 01380 827140
- Send contributions by the deadline
- Use Word documents (or compatible) not PDF or jpg files
- Contact for Advertising is Chris Brooker 01380 828047
- Contact for Deliveries is Fiona Johnson 01380 828401
- Contact for Printing is Jan Field 01380 827140

Potential volunteer deliverers or printers contact Fiona or Jan

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 * Vets Bills
- * Medical Equipment * 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 JULY AND BEYOND

**seend
centre**

AT THE HEART OF

SPECIAL EVENTS AND DATES FOR THE DIARY

To keep up to date with Community Centre Information visit:
seendcommunitycentre.com

For the Box Office visit: seendcommunitycentre.com/box-office

See below for some great events to entertain us in the next few weeks:

Saturday 11th July - TRIBUTE TO THE 80s - 7pm. Tickets £15

Join us for a great night of 80s music, also encompassing the 70s and 90s; as Kayleigh takes on Diva Legends Cher, Blondie & Madonna.

Host DJ Mark Anthony also keeps us dancing for as long as we can remember (or not remember).

Expect an evening of ultimate fun with disco lights galore and top rate entertainment.

Sunday 12th July Bath Opera Present Donizetti's "The Elixir of Love"

Doors Open 6:30 Start 7:00 Tickets £10-£19.50. Group Discounts Available

Following the success of last year's La Traviata, Bath Opera is back.

Set in the 1950s this fresh, fun and accessible 90-minute English language version of Donizetti's comic opera, including love, jealousy and a mysterious potion! Presented with 8 singers and piano accompaniment; creating an intimate and engaging evening for both opera newcomers and seasoned audiences alike.

Why not join us from 4:40pm for pre-show canapés, teas or drinks (available to pre-order from the Box Office)

Seend Famous Summer Breakfasts 8:30 -10:30 am

Dates are 25th July 1st, 15th & 22nd August and 5th September.

Come along and enjoy a freshly cooked breakfast, freshly cooked by a team of dedicated volunteers.

This is a 50+ year tradition and an important fund raiser for the Community Centre. No need to book – just turn up and enjoy.



Saturday 12th September The Music and Story of Buddy Holly 7:30pm

Tickets £18.50 plus Booking Fee

No Buddy Does It Better! The music and story of Buddy Holly. With full live band & screen show, it takes you through the story of Buddy Holly like no other. With all the hits, the wit, the stories, the voice, the guitar and the glasses!

Saturday 26th September Seend Wine Circle

Wine, cheese and good company.

More details to follow in due course from seendwinecircle@gmail.com

Community Centre Regular Events

First Friday Coffee Mornings

The Coffee Morning is back on Friday 3rd July from 10.30am in the Hall.

Come along and enjoy freshly made real coffee or tea (plus a refill) and delicious home-made cakes for £3. Everyone welcome! No need to book

Nosh & Natter Lunches

Nosh and Natter the monthly lunch club, is on a break in July and August.

Back again in September.



Rusty's Café . Lounge . Bar

A warm welcome to locals, walkers and wanderers! Dog friendly – Recently referred to as 'The Village Living Room'

From Artisan Coffee & Cakes to Brunches, Toasties and Lunches.

Full bar available (of course) from 11:30am

New Summer Menu Now Available!

Opening Hours

Wednesday 11am -2pm (no food) & Bar from 7pm - Close

Thursday 11am – Close Food until 5pm

Friday 11am – Close Food until 5pm

Saturday 11am – Close Food until 5pm

Sunday 11am – Close Food until 4pm

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.

Phyllis Helps 5th March 1936-22nd May 2026

Reaching the amazing age of 90.

Much-loved wife to Gord and loving Mum, Nan and Great Nan. She will be very much missed by her family and all who knew her. The village was somewhere she loved and had many, many happy years living in the Lye with family and friends all around.

We are sorry to report the sad news of the death of Philip Proven. His funeral will be at the crematorium at 12.30 on Friday 17th July.

Our thoughts are with Louise and the family.

Gwyn Hopkins

Gwyn Hopkins has died aged 95. He came from Wales to Devizes during his National Service, where he met and married Dorothy. He ran the Boy Scouts from 1950-1960 and Dorothy ran the Girl Guides. She sadly died age 71. A headstone is in Seend Churchyard.

Gwyn and Dorothy lived in a bungalow behind the Post Office, which Gwyn ran until the early 1970s, setting up newspaper rounds with six boys and girls doing deliveries whilst Gwyn delivered groceries around the village. He ran Seend Fete and Flower Show for years. There is a Gwyn Hopkins cup for best Victoria Sponge (which Gwyn himself won having learned to bake after Dorothy died)

He was president of Devizes Gardening Club and a committee member for Seend Gardening Club, an active member of Wessex Fuchsia Group, joining the Bath group when he moved to Bath. His greatest love was orchids, and he posted hundreds to customers around England for Valentine's Day. He was also clerk to Seend Parish Council for a number of years.

Gwyn passed away on May 24th after a short decline in health, at Paulton Nursing Home near Radstock.

SEEND CENTRE MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS CHANGE OF DAY AND VENUE



The next coffee morning reverts to Fridays and is on Friday 3rd July
Different venue – the Hall rather than Rusty's; Same time (10.30am-12.00);
Same friendly faces

Staying Safe Online - Passwords

Remembering passwords can feel like juggling too many balls at once — especially when every website insists on something longer, stronger and more complicated than the last. A password manager takes all that stress away. It securely stores your passwords, fills them in automatically, and even helps you create strong ones that are far harder for criminals to guess. The good news is that most people already have access to one without realising it: services like Microsoft and Gmail include Built-in password managers as part of your email account.

Staying safe online also starts with choosing a strong password, and the UK's National Cyber Security Centre recommends using three random words to create one that's long, memorable and difficult to guess. Avoid anything personal like birthdays or pet names; instead, pick three everyday words that have no connection to each other. To make life easier, take a moment to switch on the password manager in your email settings under "Passwords" or "Password Manager". Once it's turned on, it can securely remember your passwords and fill them in for you, so you stay protected without having to keep everything written down.

SEEND FLOWER SHOW - SATURDAY, 8th AUGUST 2026

Cup Returns

All of last year's cup winners are kindly requested to return their trophies by 15 July to:

Jackie Hamblin, 3 Hillcrest, School Road, Seend, SN12 6NL (01380 828171).



Flower Show Programme

The Flower Show Programme will be delivered to your home with the July edition of Spotlight. This year's theme is "Summer in Seend," and we look forward to wonderful support from the village and surrounding areas.

Entry forms are available in the Programme. Please hand-deliver completed forms to the Community Centre (Kennet Room) by 12 noon on Friday, 7 August.

Alternatively, you may email a photo of your entry form to seendflowershowentry@gmail.com by 7:00 PM on Thursday, 6 August. Please visit <https://seendflowershow.org.uk/entries/> for further details.

School Sunflower Competition

This year, we donated a variety of dwarf sunflower seeds to all 67 pupils at Seend Primary School. We wish our young gardeners the best of luck and look forward to a cheerful sunflower display at the show.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the hall setup on Friday, 7 August, starting at 10:00 AM, and with the "take down" on Saturday from 5:00 PM onwards. If you are able to help, please contact me or any committee member.

Thank you for your continued participation and support.

Julia White, Seend Flower Show, Chairperson, 01380 827082/07904 791743

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Save the Date for Seend Community Tidy Day

Residents across Seend Parish Council are being invited to roll up their sleeves and take part in this year's **Community Tidy Day** on **Saturday 17th October**, starting at **9.30am**.

More details to follow.

Seend Parish Council Welcomes New Chair

Congratulations to Cllr Debbie Savage and Cllr Bridget Johnstone on serving as Chair and Vice Chair for 2025–2026. Thank you both for your dedication, leadership, and service over the past year. At the Annual Meeting, Cllr Halliday was voted in as Chair, with Cllr Savage elected as Vice Chair for the coming year. Wishing them both every success in their new roles.

Thank you Big Spring Clean.

A huge thank you to Curtis Cleaning for going above and beyond during our Best Kept Village Spring Clean Day! 🍊🌿

Not only did they give up their valuable time to clean the bus shelters and improve the village, but they did it completely free of charge showing real community spirit and generosity throughout the day. Their hard work, professionalism, and willingness to help made a massive difference and did not go unnoticed.

It's fantastic to have local businesses like Curtis Cleaning supporting our community and helping keep the village looking its best. If you're looking for a reliable, hard-working, and professional cleaning company for commercial or residential services, we highly recommend them.

Thank you again for your kindness, effort, and dedication we truly appreciate everything you've done! ❤️

Seend Parish Council Invites Local Groups to Share Their Impact

Seend Parish Council is inviting local community groups, organisations, and initiatives making a positive difference in the parish to attend an upcoming Parish Council meeting and share the impact of their work.

The Council would love to hear from the people and groups helping to strengthen our community, whether through volunteering, support services, events, youth activities, environmental projects, wellbeing initiatives, or other valuable local contributions.

This is a great opportunity to highlight the work being done across the parish, connect with councillors and residents, and help the Council better understand and support the needs of the community.

Groups interested in attending are warmly encouraged to get in touch with the Parish Clerk by email at:

clerk@seendparishcouncil.gov.uk

Seend Parish Council looks forward to hearing from the many groups and individuals who continue to make a real impact within our community.

New Bins Approved for Seend Parish

Seend Parish Council has resolved to purchase two additional litter bins for the village as part of its ongoing commitment to keeping the parish clean and welcoming for residents and visitors.

The new bins will be located at the bus stop at Sells Green and the Stocks area in the village. The Council hopes these additional facilities will help reduce litter and encourage everyone to take pride in the local environment.

Seend Parish Council would like to thank residents for helping to keep the parish tidy and for continuing to support community initiatives across the village.

Photographs of the village

We are lucky to have a wonderful professional photographer working with the Parish Council!

Over the coming weeks, he'll be capturing the very best of our village its people, community groups, businesses, landscapes, and the special moments that make this such a great place to live and work.

We would love your help! 🙌

Where should he go?

Which groups, clubs, organisations, or businesses would welcome a visit?

What are our hidden gems that deserve to be photographed and celebrated?

Whether it's a beautiful view, a historic corner, a thriving local business, a community event, or a place that means something special to you, we'd love to hear your suggestions.

Please share your ideas in the comments or send us a message. Let's showcase everything that makes our village unique and help create a fantastic collection of images for everyone to enjoy.

**#VillageLife #CommunitySpirit #LocalPhotography #ParishCouncil
#HiddenGems #SupportLocalBusinesses**

Thank You to Our Community

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the residents who volunteer their time and effort to help make Seend such a wonderful place to live.

As Parish Clerk, I would also like to recognise the dedication of our volunteer Parish Councillors, who generously give their time to support the community and work on behalf of residents throughout the year.

Seend should be proud of the vibrant and caring village it is today. Together, everyone plays a part in making a positive difference, and it is through the commitment of volunteers that our community continues to thrive.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Parish Council, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please get in touch to find out more about how you can become involved and help support our village.

Calling All Seend Allotment Holders

To help us keep our records up to date, we are asking all Seend allotment holders to please contact the Clerk with your current contact details.

Please email: clerk@seendparishcouncil.gov.uk

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Hayley Bell, Parish Clerk, **Seend Parish Council**

67TH ANNUAL VILLAGE FETE – A CALL TO ACTION!

A reminder that the theme for this year's fete is **"Play"**. We're encouraging everyone, young and old alike, to let go, join in, and have some fun!

To make this year's event a success, we're looking for volunteers to help with the following:

25th & 26th July: A team to help put out road signage around the village.

From Monday 3rd August: The Irene Usher Hall will be open (1800 - 2000) to receive donations for the White Elephant, Book, and Toy stalls.

Wednesday 5th August (PM): Volunteers are needed to help set up the site, erect marquees, and sort through White Elephant donations.

On fete day: We are looking for a parking team. Due to ongoing road closures, we are expecting some congestion and will need extra hands to help keep everything running smoothly.

Car Registration

Car registration is now open. Please contact seendfete@gmail.com to request an exhibitor form. Richard and his team will be managing the arena on the day, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Once again, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to our sponsors for supporting our fundraising efforts: The Flyer, Seend CLT, The Gym (Westbury) Melksham Tyre Supplies, Bluemay and Kingston's Estate Agents.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at this year's Village Fete!

Save the date- Marlborough Open Studios Arts Trail July 2026.

Great news , Seend is on the map.

After returning to the art world after a break of nearly 30 years, I am , now, a member of MOS and my studio is on this year's Arts Trail Map.

Come and visit Jan's open studio (no.15) on the Art Trail and see some of my original paintings, prints and cards at Ore House, Bollands Hill. The studio will be open on the weekends of the 4/5th and 11/12th of July from 11-4pm. Follow the MOS signs.

Admission is free so come and browse.

Jan Clarke

Confirmation Classes

Last month at Salisbury Cathedral, Dan King from Worton was confirmed, which he described as "the continuation of a journey" of faith. We have at least one person in the Benefice aiming to be confirmed at the next Salisbury Cathedral confirmation on 31 October. We will therefore be running confirmation classes over the summer and/or early autumn.



If you would like to be confirmed, or would just like to chat about what confirmation involves, please contact me on rev@gerrylynch.co.uk or 07521 440 622. You can't be confirmed twice, but if you were confirmed when you were younger but have lapsed from Christian practice, you can renew your original confirmation vows - please contact me if you would be interested in that.

Best regards, Gerry Lynch

CHURCH NEWS



TICK-TOCK.....

Does time really go faster as we grow older? Well, yes, research suggests that our perception of time genuinely accelerates as we age. There are many theories as to why this happens and in order to slow things down a bit we need to challenge ourselves by learning new things, changing our routines and avoid running on auto pilot.

As I prepare to move on from the Wellsprings churches and villages this summer, I cannot resist looking back to when I arrived four years ago. I remember naming my first week, 'that was the week that was'. Following a lovely welcome at Holy Cross and the Irene Usher Pavillion, we were soon to receive the very sad news that Her Majesty the Queen had died. Only two days earlier she had asked Liz Truss to form a new government following the resignation of Boris Johnson. Ms Truss was our shortest ruling Prime Minister serving for just 49 days. Closer to home our Benefice Curate resigned to take up an appointment at Salisbury hospital and our Benefice Rector remained on long term sick leave following a distressing and serious health diagnosis. I sadly lost my old beloved Irish setter and I waited expectantly for the arrival of two more grandchildren.....

Time has now moved on, it certainly never stands still, and surprisingly I now find myself going back to live in one of the parishes which now forms part of the Benefice in which I grew up! As I look forward to this it is not with a sense of nostalgia, a sentimental longing for the past but rather with a feeling of hopeful anticipation of what lays ahead in the future. As I honour and give thanks for all I have received in the past, I pray I will be able to give something back in the future that is of worth and value, as I am sure you all hope to do too. I have witnessed a generosity by some here, for the welfare of others, which has truly 'taken me aback' and for this I am so grateful.

Gandalf's wise words to Frodo as he takes up his quest in the Lord of the Rings comes to mind, 'All you have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to you..'

At Eastertime we bless a special candle in church called the Pascal candle. It reminds us of the time when Jesus Christ passed from death to life eternal. We light this candle at baptisms and funerals. The candle is marked by the priest in a special way saying the words,

'Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, alpha and omega, all time belongs to Him and all ages, to Him be glory and power through every age for ever and ever, Amen

Much Love and Many Blessings, you will be missed.

Rev'd Caroline .

CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY 2026

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



Sunday 5th	(Trinity 5)	
8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Communion	Worton
9:30am	Matins (BCP)	Poulshot
11am	Communion	Potterne
11am	Communion	Seend
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Bulkington

Sunday 12th	(Trinity 6)	
8am	Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Potterne

Sunday 19th	(Trinity 7)	
8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Communion	Worton
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne
11am	Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Poulshot

Sunday 26th	(Trinity 8)	
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Potterne
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Seend

Weds 29th		
5pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

From the Registers:

Funerals

Brian John James on 11th June 2026 at St. Peter's Church, Poulshot

No weddings or baptisms 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

**The Bulkington Village Lunch
takes place on
Wednesday, 1st July 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.**



THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP

will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 13th July at 4,
Northfields, the home of Maureen Allchin. New people always
welcome.

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

TheMobile Library will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on
Monday 13th July 11.05 – 11.30 am – 11.30 am.

BULKINGTON LADIES GROUP

We are hoping to visit a garden in Marston, on Thurs 30th July.
Cream teas are available.

This visit has been postponed from last month and has not yet been confirmed.

I will get in touch later with the details.

Liz 828485

BULKINGTON 100 CLUB

We held this month's draw at the Tea and Chat Group and the winners were :-

£30	No. 41	Susanne Rose	£15	No. 58	Phyl Yarde
£25	No. 20	Thelma Boulton	£10	No. 30	Deryn Stafford
£20	No. 39	Darren Jones			



Well done to the winners and thanks to the ladies of the Tea and Chat
Group for their help with the draw.

Phyl Yarde

BULKINGTON SUMMER COFFEE MORNING

You are invited to a Coffee Morning in Bulkington Village Hall on
Sat. 4th July (Thanksgiving Day in America!) 10.30 – 12noon.

Coffee/Tea and Cake £2.50.

There will be a Raffle and Bring & Buy Stall. Hopefully there will be plants,
produce and amazing jigsaws to attract you.

Please come and bring your friends. Proceeds are towards our Church Funds, for
which we will be truly thankful!

Liz Futter 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 & DISTRICT RAMBLERS

May Walk - On a very hot Sunday the planned walk was quickly changed to somewhere with some shade. 16 members met at West Woods, near Marlborough for a 4 mile walk around the woods. The weather was beautiful but too hot for walking in the full sunshine. We followed well walked footpaths around the woods stopping half way for a rest and drink before tackling a rather steep hill back to the cars. Well done to everyone for turning out on the hottest day of the year!

June walk was from the National Trust carpark at Avebury where 14 of us followed footpaths passing Silbury Hill before continuing a circular route seeing Kennet Long Barrow in the distance before returning to the village of Avebury. The meadow grass was in full bloom with the sky larks singing, a beautiful way to spend a Sunday morning, thank you to Anita and Pete for leading and ordering the birdsong and beautiful weather.

Next walk is Sunday 26th July (change of date) followed by our evening walk and picnic on Friday 7th August.

Sandy



SEEND LYE RECREATION FIELD

MINUTES OF THE 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SEEND LYE RECREATION FIELD HELD ON THURSDAY 14th MAY 2026 AT 7:30 PM IN THE IRENE USHER MEMORIAL PAVILION

Present at the meeting R Ellinger (RE) Treasurer; A Bottomley (AB) 100+ Club; S. Jackson (SJ) Seend Tennis Club; Clare Lakhani Seend Playgroup; J Vaux (JV) Bookings Secretary; Paul Manning Seend Parish Council; R Walker (RW) Trustee; S Vaux (SV) House & Field; Liam Bergin (LB) Seend Fete; Neil Yockney PCC; Sandy Pearce Secretary . Five friends of the Seend Lye Field were also in attendance: Angela Knocker, Tessa Doe (TD), Frank Teasdale (FT), Paul Taylor (PT).

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from: Fiona Johnson - WI; C Savage (CS), Anne Ewing PCC, John Williams, Chris Downham Chair.
- 1a. Appointment of Chair for the AGM: In the absence of current chair RE volunteered to Chair the AGM. The meeting agreed to this proposal.
2. Minutes of the previous AGM: The minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed by email to the committee and were accepted as a true record. To be signed by CD.
3. Matters arising: RE updated the meeting confirming that Gift Aid returns had been submitted up to 2024.
4. Chairman's Annual Report: See attached Appendix 1
5. Treasurers Annual Report:
 - 6a. 100+ Club Annual Report: AB reported that the 100 Club had 167 members and raised £835 for the Lye Field.
 - 6b / 6c. House and Field Report . 6d Bookings Report. 6e. Fete Report
 - 6f. Tennis Club Report.
7. Safeguarding Review: SV. No change and details are on the website. SLRF safeguarding information: <https://www.seendlyefield.org/safeguarding-policy.html> SV suggested a new safeguarding officer should be sought and LB volunteered to take on that role. LB
8. Motions to be put to the meeting: No motions had been received.
9. Any other business: There was no further business.
10. Date of next meeting: Thursday 20th May 2027 AGM closed at 20.00

Appendix 1 Seend Lye Recreation Field Seend Lye Field Committee Report May 2026

I have only just taken over as Chair of the Lye Field Committee so please excuse the brevity of this report. After the long legal dispute which had a huge financial impact on our finances, we are now very much in recovery mode. Bookings for Irene Usher Hall continue and we have a lovely new kitchen for people to use. As always, a considerable amount of money has to be spent on maintaining the building and Steve Vaux is very adept at sourcing where various lines of grant funding can be found.

Seend Annual fete continues to be the biggest fund-raising event of the year and huge thanks to Liam Bergin who leads a great team of people organising this event.

We have a good committee of dedicated local people and thanks must go to them all.

Chris Downham



SEEND WI

We were delighted to welcome Paul Mills, who has recently retired as Deputy Chief Constable of Wiltshire, to our June meeting. He gave us a very informative talk and presentation on the Salisbury Poisonings. He had only been in his new role as DCC one day before the events in Salisbury happened. He explained in detail how the police investigation developed and how many different organisations were involved. Paul mentioned that it was fortunate that only 5 people were infected by the poison as it could have been so much worse.

For our July meeting we will be visiting Avebury for a tour of the Manor. If you are not currently a member of Seend WI but are interested in finding out more do contact us and we will be pleased to share our future plans with you. All regular meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, please email Joyce: kenharvey@yahoo.co.uk



SEEND BRANCH – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our major social event this year will be a Rod Stewart tribute, on 17th October at Seend Centre. Tickets will be £15 and will go on sale nearer the date. Please save the date.

Our next quarterly meeting is on Thursday 23rd July, at Seend Centre, commencing at 7:30pm.

Given that a significant focus of the RBL is Remembrance, I wish to highlight some detail around those who gave their lives in the two World Wars.

In July we remember the following fallen from Seend:

Private Reginald William Butler, born in April 1897, son of William and Matilda Butler of Seend Park Farm. Reginald enlisted in the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment and was killed in Action, on 31 July 1917 at Ypres, aged 21. He has no known grave.

Private Francis William Hornblow, born on 1st April 1893, son of Samuel and Emily Hornblow. Francis enlisted in the Wiltshire Regiment and was killed in Action on 13 July 1917 at the Messines Ridge, Belgium, aged 24. He is buried Oosttarverne Wood Cemetery.

Private Herbert Wiltshire, born in September 1888, son of John and Jane Wiltshire of Seend Cleeve. John joined the Wiltshire Regiment and was killed in Action on 8 July 1916 at Trones Wood, France, aged 28. He is buried at Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, Monyauban, France.

Lest We Forget

Finally, if you are in need, or are aware of a member, veteran, serving person or family member who is in need, please reach out to either myself or our Welfare Officer, Christine O'Reilly. Our details are at the back of Spotlight.

Steve Cubberley Chairman, Seend RBL



SEEND THEATRE CLUB

Early in July we visit the grounds of Cleeve House for a modern interpretation of “Hamlet”, performed by Shakespeare Live. Set in 1969, the king of the Denmark Hill gang is dead; something is rotten in the state of Denmark! What will Hamlet do? Will he avenge his father’s foul and unnatural death? We wait to see how this modern version of the Shakespearean classic unfolds.

Also in July, we have a trip to the Wharf Theatre in Devizes for “the Two Noble Kinsmen”. Friendship is tested to the limit in Shakespeare’s final play, a compelling story of loyalty, rivalry, wit, tragedy and heroism.

We are looking forward to a brand-new Watermill Theatre production of the iconic Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in early September. We have also made a group booking for “Sister Act” at Bath Theatre Royal in February. Details of all other trips can be found on the Village website (<https://seend.org.uk>).

We always welcome new members so, if you are interested, please email: membership.seendtheatreclub@gmail.com for more information.

Ken Harvey

SEEND 100 CLUB

MAY DRAW

1 No.50 M Ridgway	£50
2 No.127 T Doe	£20
3 No.160 A Ewing	£20
4 No.62 M Thorpe	£20



JUNE DRAW

1 No.64 T James	£50
2 No. 19 T Southern	£20
3 No. R Dick	£20
4 No. C Thorpe	£20

Thanks to the volunteers at the community centre who helped with the draw
Join the fun, 100 club started again in May

Email for a form avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk

SEEND SCHOOL NEWS

Wow, what a busy end of term 5 and start to term 6 we’ve had!

We ended our term with our annual sponsored walk. From start to finish, our pupils showed fantastic determination, teamwork, and school spirit as they walked together to raise money for a great cause. We can't wait to see how much the children have raised towards our outside area and new garden space. Huge thanks to all our staff and volunteers who walked with the children. Thank you to FOSS and volunteers who served our much needed refreshments too!



Our Year 6 children have taken part in Bikeability training this term, developing their cycling skills and learning how to ride safely and confidently on the road. They also attended a special Leavers' Service at Salisbury Cathedral, marking an important milestone as they prepare for the next stage of their educational journey.

Our Reception and Year 1 children had a wonderful time visiting the village allotment. The visit linked perfectly with our science learning on growing plants and our literacy text, Grandpa's Garden. Seeing real plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables growing in the allotment helped bring our classroom learning to life and gave the children a deeper understanding of how plants grow and thrive. A huge thank you to everyone at the allotment for welcoming us and sharing their expertise. It was a fantastic opportunity to learn beyond the classroom and inspire our young gardeners!

Finally, our Year 2 and Year 3 children have started the term learning about litter picking through a workshop from a visiting team.

During the workshop they learned:

- ways to reduce waste and recycle responsibly
- the impact of littering on wildlife and the environment
- they practised recycling items into the relevant category.

Lots of the children are keen litter pickers and are often asking to look after our school grounds, a great example of our school values of community and respect.

On Friday 12th June, the whole school got behind Wear Yellow Day to help raise awareness for Cystic Fibrosis. A parent came in to talk to the children about Cystic Fibrosis, what it is and how it can affect people diagnosed. Every penny helps makes a difference to families affected so please check out the Seend Village Group for a donation link should you wish to donate.

Mrs Kettler is retiring!

After many years of dedication, care, and inspiration, one of our much-loved teachers, Mrs Kettler, will be retiring from Seend School this summer.

Over the years, she has helped shape the lives of so many children and has been an important part of our village community. As she prepares to begin a well-earned retirement, we'd love to gather messages, memories, and good wishes from former and current pupils and their families.

If your child attended the school and was taught by her, or if you have a special memory you would like to share, we'd love to hear from you. Please send your message to admin@seend.wilts.sch.uk or drop in a handwritten message if you prefer.

We hope to compile these into a keepsake to show just how much Mrs Kettler has meant to generations of local families. Thank you for helping us celebrate an incredible career and wishing Mrs Kettler all the very best for the future!

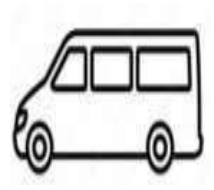
In our next edition we will be able to share our grand total from our Sponsored walk and some highlights from our Sports Day.

You can find even more updates on our school Facebook Page using this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1D3pBxwHqp/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

SEEND SHUTTLE NEWS

Shuttle News: Our next Salisbury trip will be on July the 1st. Please contact me on 01380 828757 or 07851009349 to book a seat. There will be NO SALISBURY TRIP IN AUGUST so the next one after that will be September the 2nd. Spread the word, it is always a fun day out or at least a chance to do something different. Thanks, Anita.



All enquiries to [seendshuttle@gmail](mailto:seendshuttle@gmail.com)

Anita Shea

SEEND PLAYGROUP

The children are enjoying looking for insects with the magnifying glasses and also working on insect crafts for the Flower Show in August. We have planted sunflowers and decorated the pots with insect stickers.



On 3rd July, we have our outing to Fairfield Southwick, from 9:15am to 2:30pm. Our Leavers' Presentation will take place at 10:45am on Friday 12th July, followed by a Teddy Bears Picnic.

On our last day of term, we will be busy in the morning cleaning toys, followed by a well-deserved ice cream at 1:30pm. An ice cream van will be visiting at 1:30pm for the playgroup children, and then anyone in the village is welcome to come along and buy an ice cream at 2:00pm. We have 13 children leaving us for school, and they are all very excited about starting and attending their taster sessions. We also have some teachers visiting us from local schools.

We have spaces available in September for children aged 18 months to school age. Please call us on 07803 403356 to arrange a visit.

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer holiday, and we will return on Tuesday 1st September.

Rose Dick Play leader , 01380 828003

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to the Wildcats dancers who took part in the KS1 Dance Festival at the Bath Forum in June. It was an amazing evening of dance and performance. Hats off to Miss Norris and Mrs Baxter for putting together the wonderful routine and encouraging the children to show off their talents on such a big stage. A big well done to Patrick and Aurelia, both Keevil pupils, who were selected from all the schools taking part to be the compères for the evening. What a privilege!

Spitfire class (Yr 5/6) has also been busy treading the boards in rehearsals for their big end of term performance. This year they are putting on 'The Greatest Show'. We're all really looking forward to seeing it.

Two of our classes enjoyed a trip to Longleat to supplement their learning about habitats this term. The children were inspired by the experts at Longleat and got to see a huge range of animals throughout the day, including those in the safari park. Thanks to FoKS for covering the cost of this trip.

The end of the school year is in sight, and we are amazed at how it is almost time to say the inevitable goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. As they look ahead to their new schools, we look forward to welcoming lots of new faces to our school, including new members of staff. In September, we welcome our new headteacher, Helen Rutt, our new Wildcat class teacher, Hannah Newlands and our new Spitfire class teacher, Rebecca Kearney.

It has been great to get to know our new families, pupils and staff members at various 'move up mornings' and 'meet the teacher' events already.

And finally, despite a false start due to inclement weather at the first time of asking, we all enjoyed Sports Day on the Rec Field in the village. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to FoKS for providing hydration and refreshments for everyone.

Caroline Noonan, FoKS Chair

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Please note that these minutes have been edited considerably due to lack of space in this issue of Spotlight. The full minutes can be viewed on: www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk/

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF Seend Parish Council.

Tuesday 26th May 2026.

Venue: Irene Usher Hall, Seend. The Chairman declared the meeting open at **18.30**.

PRESENT: Cllr Halliday (Chair), Cllr Savage (Vice Chair), Cllr Johnstone , Cllr Manning, Cllr Akerman, Cllr Halliday, Cllr Springate, Cllr Lack, Cllr Robinson Gordon, Cllr Drewett, Proper Officer / Clerk – Hayley Bell, Cllr Tamara Reay, 11 Residents.

Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from: Cllr Drewett.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on **28th April 2025** be approved as a **true and accurate record**. **Proposed** Cllr Halliday **Seconded** Cllr Savage

Action Tracker: The Parish Council reviewed the Action Tracker, which records and monitors the outcomes of Council resolutions and agreed actions. Members noted the progress made since the previous meeting and reviewed outstanding items requiring further attention (items are listed in full minutes on website).

Rusty Lane Ownership: Clarification is needed on the ownership of adjoining areas, the implications of any future change in ownership, the extent of liability for users of a public byway, and the potential options for establishing an independent trust or management arrangement should this be considered appropriate. The Council will await responses from the relevant authorities before considering the matter further.

The Action Tracker will continue to be reviewed regularly to ensure agreed actions are progressed and completed in a timely manner.

Cllr Reay Report: Highways and Transport Update

The Parish Council received an update on current Wiltshire Council transport consultations, including the Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) and the emerging Freight Strategy. Cllr Reay agreed to circulate the relevant consultation links to councillors to enable further review and consideration.

Members discussed the process for requesting 20mph speed limits within the parish. It was noted that applications for new 20mph speed limits are managed directly through Wiltshire Council's dedicated 20mph programme.

It was agreed that relevant traffic and highways matters should continue to be brought forward through Area Board meetings where appropriate.

The Council also discussed recent requests from Wiltshire Council Highways regarding future highways priorities and surveys; identified concerns at Bollands Hill, Inmarsh and Spout Lane should be included within any future highways assessments and evidence-gathering exercises.

Tamara Reay - Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West. Tel: 07711 824864

Email: tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Highways, LHFIG and Speed Watch Update: Outstanding parish requests, including the SID socket at Sells Green, White Gates Survey, Wesley Cottage pathway improvements and the Seend Cleeve sign, remain under consideration by Wiltshire Council officers and will continue to be pursued through the LHFIG process.

The Parish Council recorded its sincere thanks to the Community Speed Watch volunteers for their continued commitment and support in helping to improve road safety throughout the parish. Information and statistics relating to local Speed Watch activity are available on the Parish Council website. Members discussed ongoing concerns regarding vehicle speeds. Cllr Manning suggested that Bollands Hill, Inmarsh and Spout Lane should remain priorities for future highways investigations and traffic surveys. The Council agreed that a request should be made to Wiltshire Council for MetroCount surveys to be undertaken at these locations.

Bus Shelter Cleaning: In preparation for the Best Kept Village judging, the clerk had arranged for the High Street bus shelter to be cleaned free of charge by a third party. Responsibility for the maintenance and cleaning of bus shelters rests with Wiltshire Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain quotations for the cleaning of the remaining bus shelters and report back to the Council for consideration.

Highways and Traffic Concerns: Councillors discussed the increasing pressure on the parish highway network arising from ongoing housing development and traffic growth. As traffic volumes continue to increase, more drivers may seek alternative routes through Seend and its surrounding hamlets to avoid congestion, with potential implications for road safety, pedestrian access, highway maintenance and the character of the village.

Members agreed that it is important for the Parish Council to continue monitoring traffic trends and to work proactively with Wiltshire Council.

Footpath Maintenance Request: The Parish Council considered a request from Melksham Without Parish Council regarding the seeding and maintenance of the footpath linking the parish boundaries. Members resolved that a financial contribution should be made to BRAG in recognition of the work undertaken and to support the ongoing maintenance of the route. Councillors also agreed that the Parish Steward should be requested to clear and tidy the footpath where appropriate.

Payments:

Finance and Governance Update: All financial transactions from the previous financial year have now been transferred to the Council's new accounting software, Scribe. Members considered the current arrangements whereby all payments are presented to and approved by the Council. It was suggested that delegated authority could be granted to the Chair and Clerk to authorise essential payments between scheduled meetings. Seend Parish Council maintains robust financial controls.

The Clerk reported that invitation letters had been sent to all organisations that have received grant funding from the Parish Council, inviting them to attend a future Council meeting to provide an update on how the Council's grant funding has been used and the benefits delivered to the community. Members also discussed the Council's current approach to grants and donations. The Clerk suggested adopting a formal Grants and Donations Policy to provide a clear, transparent and consistent framework for future funding decisions.

New Litter Bins: The supply and installation of two new litter bins within Seend village was approved.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at **20.50**

Hayley Bell, Parish Clerk

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 13th May 2026. **Venue: Irene Usher Hall, Seend.**

The Chairman declared the meeting open at **18.30**

PRESENT: Cllr Savage (Chair), Cllr Bridget Johnstone (Vice Chair), Cllr Paul Manning, Cllr Pamela Akerman, Cllr Jamie Halliday, Cllr Phil Springate, Cllr William Lack, Proper Officer / Clerk – Hayley Bell, Cllr Tamara Reay, 11 Residents

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: received from Cllr Helen Robinson Gordon, Cllr Drewett, Cllr A Drewett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on **12th May 2025** were approved as a **true and accurate record**.

Chair End of year Speech: Debbie Savage reported on the past year's activities, including the wild flower meadow, best kept village victory, Speedwatch and the Neighbourhood Plan. Her speech can be seen in full on the Parish Council website.

Councillor Reay Report: Councillor Reay's Annual Report 2026 covered Wiltshire Council's budget, party politics, parking charges, waste and recycling, potholes and the Local Plan. Her full report can be viewed on the Parish Council website.

Reports from the Village groups: These can be seen on the Parish Council website. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at **20.05**.

WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and
Swindon has confirmed plans to invest more than £5.3 million in victim
support, community safety and crime prevention services during 2026/27.

The plans set out how the OPCC will continue commissioning vital services that support victims, reduce serious violence, tackle anti-social behaviour and help break cycles of reoffending, all of which are priorities in PCC Philip Wilkinson's Police and Crime Plan.

More than £2 million will be directed towards victim services, including continued support for the Horizon Witness and Care Service, independent domestic abuse and sexual violence advocacy provision, and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in Swindon, where essential works will begin to meet new national forensic standards.

Almost £1.4 million will be invested in criminal justice and reducing reoffending, supporting custody healthcare, mental health provision, substance misuse services and rehabilitation pathways, alongside work to improve housing and employment support for people leaving prison.

Community safety and youth services will continue to focus on early intervention and serious violence reduction, with more than £700,000 being invested to support programmes such as Focused Deterrence, Synergy and Blunt Truth, alongside youth engagement and ongoing work to tackle retail and business crime.

Details of the investment and commissioning priorities were presented as part of a formal paper to the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel detailing how funding will be used to deliver the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: "Commissioning these services is essential if we are serious about preventing crime, supporting victims and keeping communities safe in the long term. The priorities set out in my Police and Crime Plan recognise that policing alone is not enough – we need strong, effective services alongside it to reduce harm and build public confidence."

The Commissioner also highlighted the loss of the Home Office Hotspot Action Fund, which previously supported targeted patrols and community safety interventions. While this funding will not continue into 2026/27, partners are working together to protect the most effective approaches.

In June we marked Volunteers Week, an important opportunity to recognise the contribution made by those who give their time to support policing and community safety across Wiltshire and Swindon. From Special Constables, Police Support Volunteers to Independent Custody Visitors, Animal Welfare Scheme volunteers and community-based roles, they provide additional capacity and insight that strengthens the service we deliver.

We will continue to ensure that volunteering opportunities are accessible, well supported, and aligned with the needs of our communities.

To everyone currently volunteering across Wiltshire Police and the OPCC—thank you for your continued contribution.

You can watch videos on each volunteering role and find out more on the website.

SEEND SPORTING DRAMATIC AND LITERARY NEWS

TENNIS : I have to begin with tennis this month as Seend have had a wonderful start to the league season beating Chippenham, Marshfield, Chippenham Park and Biddestone in rapid succession, the latest victory being an 8-0 win at Biddestone on the 8th June thanks to Karin, Megan, Tom and Marek.



It definitely looks as if Seend could win their division if they keep playing like this. Our next match is at home to Marshfield on 22nd June. Harry Waylen should, hopefully, be back on court after a lengthy absence owing to a footballing injury. This match should put the team firmly at the top of the table if we win.

Social tennis continues at 6pm on Thursday evenings on the village courts. Contact Fiona Stanford if you would like to join us or Chris Brooker if you fancy Thursday table tennis instead.

LITERARY : Seend has three active authors in Teresa Hamilton, one of our tennis team, Janey Wilkes, modern pentathlon and croquet expert, and Sir Mathew Thorpe whose volume presently in the writing has the working title of “Habsburg Traces” and hopefully will be hot off the presses by next spring. Just as Seend boasts three village halls, not the usual one, we likewise top the local league of “writers in residence”.

PLACES of GREAT HISTORICAL SPORTING EVENTS ;

Winning the free drink at the Community Centre is becoming quite competitive with last month's winners being Eleanor and David Crumpton. Congratulations to them. The clue was “In the East a jelly sandwich....as well?”, 5 letters. The answer was of course Tokyo, the venue for the Olympic Games in 1964 and 2021.

A reminder that the answer to this cryptic section is always the venue of some great national or indeed international sporting event. To date The Lye Field does not quite qualify.

Anyhow this month's clue is “Where the talkative rodent netted much of his Zulu content”, 6,6 letters. As ever the first correct answer presented at Rusty's Bar will earn the winner their complimentary drink. Tom and Emma have the answer in the customary sealed envelope.

FOOTBALL : Whilst Seend are still enjoying having won three consecutive first division championships in the Trowbridge and District league I am not sure who will take over as manager after Andy Dyer's tremendously successful reign. I look forward to hearing from him or her shortly.

CROQUET : It is proposed to hold a quietish croquet tournament here at Manor Cottage on Sunday the 16th of August. All who would like to take part please let me know. However very few, including me, have any true understanding of the rules and tactics so, to that end, local croquet enthusiast Janey Wilkes will be giving a practical demonstration and explanation of this game here on the south lawn at Manor Cottage on Tuesday the 4th of August at 6pm. All are welcome. Mallets and balls provided, bring your own refreshments. The croquet lawn is being rolled and manicured by sporting gardener Freddie Crossman now finished his GCSE's so available for gardening on 07704102304.

SHORT MAT BOWLS : Seend presently lie in second place in the Summer League 2026 table but are outright leaders in the refreshments and catering departments.

CRIBBAGE : I understand that the Devizes Cribbage League only runs from October until Easter hence most of the regular Seend players are out there taking part in some other sport pending the shorter nights.

Results, fixtures and news by 18th July please.

Frankie Goddard 07854 660582

BITS AND BOBS



Our lecture on July 15th in the **Corn Exchange**, Devizes, is:
“Secret Art in The Passport” by Martin Lloyd

This lecture is preceded by our AGM so starts earlier than usual at 10:30. Please be in your seats for 10:15 am. Lecture starts at 11 am through to 12 noon. Coffee is available beforehand

From the wax seal to the microchip, man has exploited the skill of the artist and artisan in his attempt to manufacture a forgery-proof document. Taking you through three centuries of passport design, this lecture explains the overt and uncovers the covert to illustrate the defences built in to the passport and the tricks the forger uses to defeat them. You will never see your passport in the same light again!

Martin has been lecturing to various groups, including U3A, National Trust, historical societies, Gresham College and business groups since 2008. He previously worked for HM Immigration Service, and has broadcast on local and national television and radio.

Why not come to this lecture as a guest?- Donation £8.

Our new season starts October 2026 to July 2027 incl. so why not join the Society, after this lecture. Go to www.theartsocietydevizes.org or search Facebook for The Arts Society Devizes.

WEST LAVINGTON VILLAGE FETE

SATURDAY 18th JULY from 2pm on the Village Playing Field.

There will be all the popular attractions at the Fete, including the Fun Family Dog Show, and the fantastic Grand Prize Draw, plus children's games and loads of stalls.
Parking and entry is free!



NGS

JULY: <https://ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-gardens-in-july/>

BY ARRANGEMENT OR GROUP VISITS: <https://ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-by-arrangement/>

BIG BRITISH GARDEN SURVEY

Gardens are extraordinary places for wildlife, and this spring and summer we're excited to invite you to take part in The Big British Garden Survey, a new collaboration between the National Garden Scheme and the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH).

This project aims to celebrate the role that gardens play in providing space and resources for wildlife. The survey runs until 30th September 2026 so please do take part if you can.

<https://ngs.org.uk/the-big-british-garden-survey/>



EDINGTON ARTS' 2026 CHORAL WORKSHOP

This year's Choral Workshop is on Saturday 19th September, from 10am to 4pm, in Edington Priory Church. It will be led by Will Dawes, the Director of Music at Somerville College Oxford, a sought-after freelance singer and conductor, and formerly a member of the leading choral ensemble Stile Antico.

The workshop welcomes everyone who can read music, although some choral experience is definitely an advantage. This year we will have the chance to work on music by 19th and 20th century British composers – Benjamin Britten, Charles Wood, Harold Darke and Samuel Wesley – beautiful, lush music which is very singable.

The cost for the day is £25 for adults, £10 for students under 18 in FTE, and Angels have the benefit of a 10% discount as always. This year we have some funding which will allow for some free places for under 18s; please email anne@edingtonarts.org for more information on this.

The fee includes all music, and refreshments on arrival and at mid-morning; information about the music is on our website, www.edingtonarts.org, from where you can also book your place; booking is open now, before everyone disappears on holiday!

These days are always stimulating, informative, and fun, so we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

THE 71ST EDINGTON MUSIC FESTIVAL

Our festival, hosted by the Parish of Edington and taking place in the Priory Church, is, as far as we can establish, the original, and therefore the oldest, Festival of Music within the Liturgy in the world. The 2026 festival runs from Sunday 23rd August to Sunday 30th, a week of glorious music from three choirs; the Nave choir of men, boys and girls; the Consort of men and women, and the male voice Schola who sing only plainchant.



The 71st festival has a new Director, Alexander Hamilton, who is Director of Music at His Majesty's Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace. Taking over the Nave Choir from him will be Alexander Potts, who has been Festival Organist for the past few years. The Consort continues to be directed by Jeremy Summerly, and the Schola by Peter Stevens.

The theme this year is 'The Tree of Life', a fruitful opportunity to consider birth, life, death and rebirth through daily themes of Eden, Earth, Flower, Fruit, Wood, Garden and The Tree of Life, and through a huge range of musical treats as part of four daily services throughout the week. Choral Evensong on Wednesday 26th August at 4pm will be recorded live for BBC R3, followed by the Festival Musical Supper which raises money for the community; and the Requiem on Friday 28th August is by W.A.Mozart.

Every service is of course free to everyone, and we look forward to welcoming old friends and making new ones. More information is on the festival website, www.edingtonfestival.org where you can sign up for regular updates and bulletins. Any queries can be emailed to info@edingtonfestival.org.

DEVIZES FLOWER CLUB

Meet on the 3rd Wednesday every month upstairs in
Devizes Town Hall 7 pm for 7.30pm visitors £6 on the door.
Annual subscription £35.

Contact us: devizesflowerclubuk@gmail.com - facebook:
@devizesflowerclub instagram: devizes_flowerclub



MELKSHAM FLOWER CLUB

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month
at 2pm in Seend Community Centre



Don't forget to look at our June online colour supplement, including the Seend Cleeve Open Gardens - available shortly on seend.org.uk - for photos of what's happened since the last issue.

Please send photos of village events that you would like published to
spotlight@seend.org.uk

AND FINALLY..... **Extracts from letters sent to various councils**

I want some repairs done to my cooker as it backfired and burnt my knob off.

I am writing on behalf of my sink that is coming away from the wall.

Our lavatory seat is now broken in half and is in three pieces.

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) Maureen Allchin 07421 137462
Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, 828557.
Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513; Anne Ewing 828557
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 – Hayley Bell clerk@seendparishcouncil.gov.uk
Seend's Wiltshire Councillor – Tamara Reay 07711824864 tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk
Seend Village Website: www.seend.org.uk – webmaster Chris Savage spotlight@seend.org.uk
Seend School – 828334
Bulkington Website: www.bulkington.org.uk
Bulkington Parish Council—Tekla Hicks clerk@bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Bulkington's Wilts Councillor – Tamara Reay 07711824864 tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk
Countryside access officers (new name for rights of way wardens) for Seend & Bulkington:
Ali Raisey ali.raisey@wiltshire.gov.uk and Stephen Leonard Stephen.leonard@wiltshire.gov.uk
Devizes Area Board – 01225 718352 Support Officer: tara.shannon@wiltshire.gov.uk
MP: Dr Brian Mathew – email brian.mathew.mp@parliament.uk
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
Seend Cleeve - Owen Burton 828820
clerk@bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Nosh & Natter – Frank Teasdale
07719 918310
Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 07719 917814
Preschool -(Playleader) Rose Dick 828003

Ramblers - Sandy James 01380 739235
Royal British Legion - Sec: Dave Beaumont
07538 651712, Welfare: Christine O'Reilly
07791 157060 / 01380 828888
Chairman: Steve Cubberley 07711 127230
Seend Baby & Toddler Group - Eleanor
Braney 07947 867701
elbraney84@hotmail.co.uk
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
seendwine@gmail.com



Shop and café opening hours

Monday - 9.30am – 4pm

Tuesday - 9.30am – 4pm

Wednesday - 9.30am – 2pm

Thursday - 9.30am – 4pm

Friday - 9.30am – 4pm

Saturday - 9.30am – 2pm

Buy one get one free on Breakfasts until the end of April!

We do hot drinks, sandwiches and great breakfasts.

The Post Office hopefully will re-open soon.

