SPOTLIGHT

SEEND & BULKINGTON



November 2026

DIARY DATES FOR LATE OCTOBER

28th Nosh & Natter lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30pm
28th Brewery Inn Quiz Night
29th Seend Community Centre Annual Meeting, 7pm

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

2nd 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
4th Salisbury Shuttle Shopping Trip
4th Bulkington Village Lunch
6th First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10 -11.30 am
7th African Harmony Workshop Seend CC 10 am to 4 pm
8h Remembrance Sunday
11th Seend WI History of Seend Panto
14th LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEC/JAN 2027 SPOTLIGHT
15th Seend & District Ramblers
21st Folk & Roots Charity Night, Seend Community Centre, 7.30 pm
25th Nosh & Natter lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30 pm
28th Brewery Inn Quiz Night
29th Twinkle Twinkle by Last Baguette Theatre Group, 11 am Seend CC
30th 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

DIARY DATES FOR EARLY DECEMBER

4th First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10-11.30 am
5th Seend Wine Circle Seend Community Centre, 8 pm doors open 7.30 pm
5th Bulkington Christmas Coffee Morning, Village Hall 10.30 am
5th Christmas Wreathmaking Workshop Seend CC, 9.30-12.30, or 13 – 15.30



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* **seendlink@the-reasons.com**

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 NOVEMBER 2026 SPOTLIGHT



Winter is on its way! Time get the woolly pullovers out of the Cupboard and pile on the winter bed clothes.
People are starting to plan and advertise the Christmas fairs, activities and entertainments. So do go along to some and see what is on offer.

The next Spotlight is a double issue, December and January 2027, so do plan ahead if you need to put any articles or notifications in the magazine. The deadline for inclusion is 14th November.

Contributions for the December /January issue by 14th November please

- **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 NOVEMBER AND BEYOND

seend centre
AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

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

Saturday 7th November – African Harmony Workshop 10am – 4pm
£25 including lunch
With internationally acclaimed Zimbabwean-born musician Bruce Ncube.
No experience needed – all voices welcome.
Tickets: https://wegottickets.com/f/2760#tickets or contact
Victoria drawingthewindvf@gmail.com

'We Meat Again' - Food Pop Up Friday 13th November Timings to be confirmed.
Despite it's name, vegans and vegetarians are catered for!

Saturday 21st November Folk and Roots Charity Night 7:30 pm. Tickets £12
Featuring Light Garden and The Band of Pilgrims
Light Garden is an accomplished and highly original "Acid Folk" Duo . They are joined by Blues and Roots outfit The Band of Pilgrims – which features Seend musician Joe Brown. A charity fundraiser for Kind Waves.
Tickets are available at Seend Centre Box Office or Devizes Books

Sunday 29th November - 11am Twinkle Twinkle – a nocturnal journey for early years. Performed by The Last Baguette Theatre Group

A playful, gentle journey based on the poem The Star by Jane Taylor (first published 1806) with original music. Puppetry, joyful jokes, a host of woodland animals and lots of starlight. This leading family theatre group are back in Seend after a sell-out show last Christmas. Interactive and brilliant!
Tickets available through Seend Centre Box Office

Saturday 5th December - Christmas Wreathmaking Workshop with Jane
Tickets £40 - includes all materials.

Morning Session 9.30am-12:30pm, includes a soup lunch.
Afternoon sessions 13:00 - 15:30, includes a cream tea.
Jane Manning will guide you through making a large wreath, which you will take home. Limited places available.
If you can, please bring a pair of secateurs.
Please note this a not-for-profit event. Jane is kindly donating her time and expertise – all revenue will go to Seend Centre.
Tickets– seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com

Saturday 5th December - Seend Wine Circle 8pm – Doors Open 7:30pm.

Wines for the Festive Season, plus bread and cheese.
Tickets will be available seendwinecircle@gmail.com or
www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/seend-wine-circle-106632894571

Sat 12th December: Wiltshire Concert Band Christmas Concert 7.30pm
An explosion of fun and Christmas music
Raising funds for Devizes & District Food bank.
Tickets: www.wiltshireconcertband.com or phone 07813 535498

Saturday 19th December: Festive Bingo



Come and join the fun, with a chance to win prizes at this popular annual event. No need to book – just come along.
Doors Open at 7:30pm. Eyes-Down 8pm

Community Centre Regular Events



First Friday Coffee Mornings
The Coffee Mornings will be held on Friday 6th November and 4th December from 10am -11:30am in the Lounge Bar. 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, just come along.

Nosh & Natter Lunches



The monthly lunch club meets from 12 noon for 12.30pm on the 28th of October and the 25th of November.
Please book in advance by calling Frank Teasdale on 07719 918310. Two courses and refreshments for £8 — lovely home-made dishes prepared and served by the excellent N+N team.

Rusty's Cafe - Lounge – Bar
A warm welcome to locals, walkers and wanderers! Dog friendly.
From Artisan Coffee & Cakes to Breakfasts, Brunches, Toasties and Lunches.
Full bar available from 11:30am.

Opening Hours

Wednesday	7pm – 11pm	(no food)
Thursday	11am – 11pm	Food until 3pm
Friday	11am – 11pm	Food until 3pm
Saturday	11am – 11pm	Food until 3pm
Sunday	11am – 5pm	Food until 3pm

BREWERY INN
28th October – Quiz Night
29th November – Quiz Night



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.

SEEND COMMUNITY LAND TRUST NEWS

Thank you to the 120 people who participated in the very constructive Seend Community Land Trust Consultation Part 2 meeting on Thursday 18th October. In response to positive feedback, we want to involve our members across the wider parish as plans move forward, and we invite all parish residents to contact us if they wish to be actively involved.

The Seend Community Land Trust also wants to empower residents in all our settlements, Seend Head, Sells Green & Martinslade, Seend Cleeve & The Stocks, to set their own priorities for better amenities in these important parts of the parish.
If you are willing to open up a discussion with fellow residents we can arrange workshops where we can discuss potential ways forward regarding improved amenities for other parts of the parish not yet covered by our plan.

In addition to local amenities, the Community Land Trust also wants to gather more information about the kind of new housing you or your relatives would be interested in. This will allow us to build a community-driven picture of what types of homes are needed.

Please contact Seend Community Land Trust at info@seendclt.org
https://www.seendclt.org/clt-membership.html

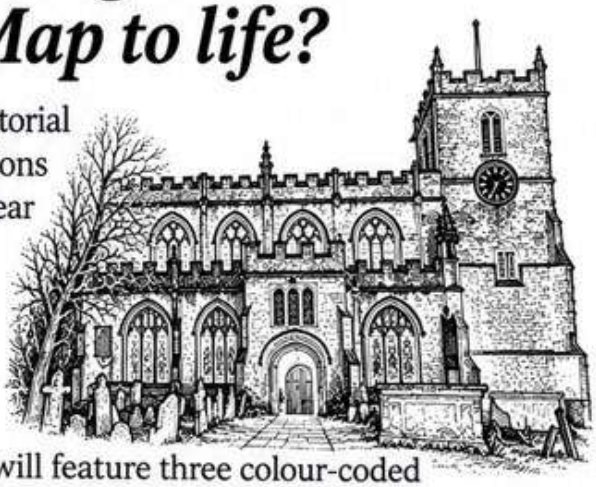
Debs and Chris Duparcq
would like to thank everyone who joined them in celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary and made donations to their chosen charities. They were able to donate £150 each to Great Ormond Steet Children's Hospital, Heart Research and Cancer Research - £450 in total.

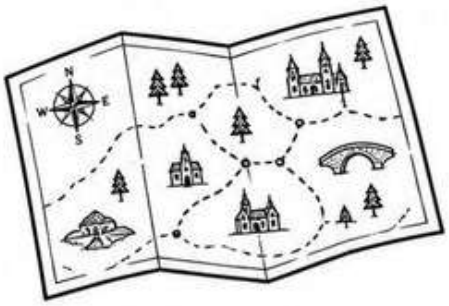
The Spotlight team would love some help to keep this very informative publication still being delivered to your doorstep. We would like to have a few more volunteers to help with the printing.
We print at The Irene Usher Pavilion once a month, usually on the last Monday of the month. The print machine will be printing all day.
I programme the printer and set it going first thing in the morning, and other people come along in shifts to keep the machine fed with paper and take out the finished printing. If you would like to help please ring me, Jan Field on 01380 827140.

CALL FOR LOCAL ARTISTS – SEEND PARISH WALKING MAP

Could you help bring Seend's new Walking Map to life?

Seend Parish Council is creating a new pictorial Walking Map to be displayed at key locations around the parish, and we would love to hear from local artists.





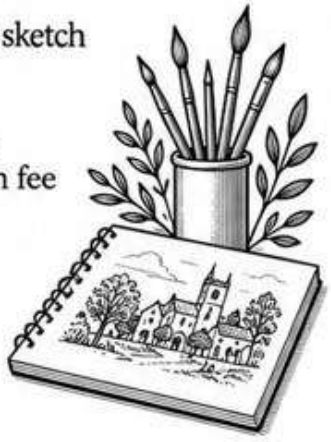
The map will feature three colour-coded walking routes together with simple line drawings of key landmarks, based on photographs provided by the Parish Council.

Artists are invited to submit:

- Examples of relevant past work (photographs are fine)
- A short outline of how they would approach the project

Shortlisted artists will be invited to produce an A3 working sketch for the map and will receive a **£50** fee for this stage.

From these submissions, one artist will be selected to create the final artwork, a 1m x 1m illustrated map, for a commission fee of **£900**.



If you enjoy drawing, sketching or illustrating and would like to contribute to a lasting community project that will be enjoyed by residents and visitors for years to come, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Seend Parish Council by email:
cllr.taylor@seendparishcouncil.gov.uk

Closing date:
30th November

SEEND PARISH COUNCILLORS

A huge thank you to everyone who expressed an interest in serving the community. We are grateful to have a dedicated team of councillors committed to representing residents and helping shape the future of Seend.

While there are no vacancies at present, we are always pleased to hear from residents who would like to get involved in the future. If a vacancy arises, we encourage community-minded individuals to consider joining the Council.

Parish Councillors play an important role in:

- Representing the views of residents
- Influencing local decisions
- Supporting community projects and initiatives
- Helping maintain and improve village life

If you would like to apply to become a Parish Councillor please complete the applications Councillor Vacancies - Seend Parish Council Melksham, Wiltshire - Seend Parish Council, Seend, Melksham or email the clerk, clerk@seendparishcouncil.gov.uk deadline is the end of December 2026.
Together, we can continue working to keep Seend a thriving and welcoming community.
#SeendParishCouncil #SPC #Seend #Wiltshire

SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS

Are pleased to have several new young members joining us for our production of 'Oz - The Panto' next February, and to welcome back a few recent absentees. Rehearsals start on 1st November. Hopefully the script will be written by then.....

THE ANYTHING GOES INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE!

Anything Goes… Well, Almost!
Got things to sell? Turn your clutter into cash!
Love a bargain? Come along and see what fabulous finds you can pick up!

Sunday 15th November 11am to 3pm.



AT SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Pop over to our Bookwhen page to find out all the deals and book your space.

https://bookwhen.com/prelovedevents...

Any questions? Contact Jennifer on 07341 986569.

SEEND PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW GROUP

Present: Jamie Halliday, Olly Burton, Debbie Savage, Bridget Johnstone, Sarah Chard, Clive Upton
Consultant: Georgina A'Bear
Apologies: Phil Springate, Jackie Hamblin, Helen Robinson-Gordon, Pamela Akerman
Chair: Jamie Halliday as agreed in Carola Thorpe absence.

1. Membership and attendance
The Review Group comprises 12 volunteers, including Parishioners and Parish Councillors.

Georgina A'Bear, Chair of the previous Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, will attend meetings as an in-house consultant as required.
The Group discussed attendance and the need to balance regular participation with members' other commitments. The possibility of adjusting the meeting time was discussed, with flexibility retained for the time being.
The Group agreed that Paul's request to attend meetings as an observer would not be accepted.

2. Minutes and administration
Jamie Halliday will continue to take notes/minutes of meetings. Members should provide any amendments or corrections following circulation.
Olly Burton will maintain the Review Group archive. Georgina A'Bear has provided Olly with the existing Neighbourhood Plan hard drive.
The Group agreed that agendas, minutes and updates should be saved as PDFs for the archive.

3. Registration of the Neighbourhood Plan review
The Group discussed the need to ensure that the intention to review the Neighbourhood Plan is formally registered with Wiltshire Council.
Debbie Savage is awaiting a response from Michael Kilmister at Wiltshire Council following contact regarding the Regulation 5 process.
Action: Debbie Savage – Follow up with Wiltshire Council and confirm the process and registration of the Plan review.

4. Housing Needs Survey
The Group discussed obtaining an updated Housing Needs Survey for Seend Parish. The previous survey was undertaken in 2019 and received a 42% response rate.
Action: Debbie Savage – Ask Michael Kilmister/Wiltshire Council about the process for updating the Housing Needs Survey and report back to the Group, including any relevant timing or cost information.

5. Communications
Carola Thorpe will prepare updates for inclusion in Spotlight.
Action: Debbie Savage – Post agreed updates on the Seend Facebook page.

6. Meeting with Place Studio
The Group discussed the recent meeting with Vaughan Thompson of Place Studio, including:
the timetable for the Neighbourhood Plan review;
the status of the existing Neighbourhood Plan in relation to future development applications;
housing and settlement boundary issues;
the relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan timetable and the emerging Local Plan;
potential development numbers and their relationship to future housing allocations;
the Call for Sites process.
The Group discussed whether notes from the meeting should be made available, subject to an appropriate summary.
Action: Jamie Halliday – Prepare a summary of the Place Studio meeting for consideration by the Group as part of the summary of this meeting.

Action: Carola Thorpe – Ask Place Studio for its pricing structure to assist with understanding the likely timetable and costs.

7. Previous Site Assessments
Members were asked to familiarise themselves with the previous Site Assessment Report and supporting documents available in the Neighbourhood Planning archives on the Parish Council website.
Georgina A'Bear has circulated the final Site Assessment Report (Version 7).

8. Call for Sites
The Group discussed known potential development sites, including sites around Seend village, Seend Cleeve and Sells Green.
The deadline for landowners to register sites with Wiltshire Council is understood to be 30 September.
The Group does not currently have confirmation of which landowners have submitted sites and will establish the position following the deadline.
The Group also discussed the process for nominating the contaminated site.
Action: Pamela Akerman – Follow up the process for nominating the contaminated site.

9. Finance and invoices
The Clerk will process the Place Studio invoice.
A copy of the invoice will be provided to the Review Group, with Olly Burton retaining a copy for the Group's records.

10. Any Other Business
Olly Burton will maintain the archive of agendas, minutes and updates.
Hayley will provide copies of invoices to Olly for the Group records.

11. Date of next meeting
Thursday 22 October 2026

Meeting closed at 19:45.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW

The Neighbourhood Plan Review Group has now met with Place Studio, who are supporting us with the review of the made Seend Neighbourhood Plan.

The main purpose of the meeting was to understand the current planning position regarding Wiltshire Council's Local Plan consultation, what we should be doing now, and what support we may need from Place Studio.

The key message was that the existing Neighbourhood Plan remains a useful and relatively strong planning document, but the planning environment has changed significantly. The failure of Wiltshire Council's Local Plan means there is currently no up-to-date county-wide housing strategy, and our existing plan cannot on its own prevent speculative development where national planning policy supports it.
Any applications are likely to be given approval, unless a strong objection is put forward based on clear and substantial policies within our existing Neighbourhood Plan.

Our neighbourhood plan is still supported in law, and we can use the plan to define aspects like size, design and site layout as part of the planning process.

A significant unknown at the moment is the eventual number of houses required to be built in Seend Parish, and the rational on which this decision will be made. The consultation timeline will set these out at the end of Summer 2027. WC will also be reviewing its settlement hierarchy, which will be relevant to Seend's designation as a large village as part of this process - Place Studios will support in how we can ensure the Local Plan respects how our NP defines housing allocation within the parish boundary.

This also creates a timing question for the NP Review Group. We could progress the NP review now, alongside the Local Plan process, or wait until the Local Plan is further advanced so that we have greater certainty over the housing requirement and settlement boundary. Place Studio's view is that there is useful work we can undertake now without prejudicing our position later.

Place Studio's actions are to:
review the existing NP policies and identify where they need updating;
look at the cumulative impact of development in and around the parish;
Understand whether we need strengthen our design principles and identify the heritage, landscape and other constraints we want to protect further;
share the process for reviewing the settlement boundary;
establish how new development numbers and the eventual housing requirement for Seend will interact.

Immediate actions for the SPNPRG
The Review Group will be:
confirming the formal position with Wiltshire Council regarding the NP review;
reviewing the previous site assessment work;
monitoring the current Call for Sites process;

cont/-

looking at the evidence required for housing need and the settlement boundary;
considering community priorities and how these should inform the review;
developing a communications approach so that parishioners understand the process and timescales.
engaging with the community and managing expectations about what the NP review can and cannot achieve.
Place Studio is also preparing a proposal and cost for supporting the next stages of support for the review.
One specific point discussed was a new Housing Needs Survey. Place Studio's view was that there is no reason not to obtain updated evidence of affordable housing need now, and the Review Group is therefore seeking clarification from Wiltshire Council on the process and whether they can assist with this.
Overall, the Review Group's approach is to make progress now on the evidence and policy work that we can control, while avoiding committing the Parish to housing numbers or site choices before the emerging Wiltshire Local Plan gives us greater clarity.

HELP KEEP OUR FETE SIZZLING

We were blown away by all the wonderful comments about last year's Fete.

The response from the village was fantastic, and we're so proud of what we achieved together: **£9,190 in profit** went straight back into our community.

What an amazing effort from everyone involved!

As we look forward to our **68th year**, which will be on the **7th August 2027**, we're looking to welcome a new team to run one of our most important stalls, the BBQ.

Last year it raised an incredible **£2,268**, nearly a quarter of the Fete's total profit, so it really is at the heart of what we do.

Do you love the smell of sizzling sausages on a summer's day? Fancy yourself a whizz on the barbecue?

Or perhaps you'd rather be front-of-house, taking the orders, handling the cash and keeping the queue smiling?

Whether you're behind the grill or out front, we need you!

Our brilliant team (led by Pete and Sian) are hanging up their tongs, so we're looking for a new crew to take it on.

You don't need to be a professional chef, just enthusiastic, reliable and happy to have a laugh. Grab your friends, your neighbours or your family and sign up together!

It's a great way to meet people, get involved in village life and make a real difference, all while having fun.

What's involved:

Planning and ordering the food (with help from last year's notes)

Setting up and running the grill on the day

Serving hungry visitors with a smile

All food safety training provided.

Interested? Got questions? Get in touch with Liam on our Fete email. SeendFete@gmail.com Stay in the loop with all the latest updates and interact with us by following our Facebook page @seendfete and visiting our website seendfete.org. Warm regards, Team Fete #teamseend

CHURCH NEWS

The View from My Window.

Once again, I start by remarking on the amazing weather. As I write, the sun is shining, I have not yet found my winter coat, and the grass has returned to a wonderful shade of green. With everything that has been going on in the world it really reassures me that nature is faithful. Yes, the plants suffered such a lot in all that drought, but eventually they pushed through. The apples may have been smaller, but in my garden, sweeter, the tomatoes may have been later and smaller, but there, and very sweet, and my fig tree is absolutely covered with fruit, albeit too small to ripen this year. So, contrast all that with the worldwide political situation .

It's very easy to be worried about the future. I am a grandparent; by and large I am not a worrier, but my Achilles heel is my grandchildren. How will things work out for them? Will they be able to afford a home of their own? Will they be able to afford to have children? What sort of society will they live in? I expect many of you share these anxieties and of course try as we might, we can't fix it.

But conversely, I have such faith in my grandchildren. Yes, they do daft things sometimes, but their enthusiasm, and their willingness to try, reassures me and gladdens my heart. I think it was ever thus. When I look back at old photographs of my own parents, young and optimistic before the war, and then, wartime photos of my dad in RAF uniform and my mother holding the fort, and then afterwards on family holidays with the three of us, a story of survival which many of you will share, It seems to me that they trusted and worked through it all for their families, and indeed for the whole of the human race. Whilst there is so much doom and gloom around now, isn't that what we should be doing? Hope!

In one of the readings we heard in church recently, there were two sons and a father. The first son didn't want to go to work, but in a bit of a strop, he did. The 2nd son said he would obey his father and go and work but didn't. He was devious. He did not choose the right thing. He let his father down. With all these difficult issues in the world at the moment, be they war, or climate change it seems to me that we must do our best to choose to do the right thing. I can't change what goes on in the White House, but I can change what goes on in my own house or garden. I can't change El Nino, but I can learn to be more frugal with water, and indeed with what goods and food I buy. Just as I trusted my own father I can try to put my trust in my heavenly Father a bit more. Sometimes that is difficult, but I do believe that he sent his son to this planet 2000 years ago to show us how to live. Obviously, we are slow learners, but maybe listening to him is the best course of action, because actually it is all there. The teachings of Jesus are as appropriate now as they were then, so whether you are stroppy and reluctant like the first son or compliant and willing, give it a go. We must do our best . Our grand children depend upon it.

Revd. Jane Knowles

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

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2026

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

Sunday 1st (All Saints / All Souls)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9:30am	Communion	Worton
9:30am	Matins (BCP)	Poulshot
11am	Communion	Potterne
11am	Communion	Seend
4pm	All Souls Service	Bulkington

Sunday 8th (Remembrance Sunday)

10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Seend
10:50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Poulshot
10:50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Worton
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Bulkington
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Potterne
	(3rd Sunday before Advent)	
6pm	Communion	Potterne

Sunday 15th (2nd Sunday before Advent / Safeguarding Sunday)

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

Sunday 22nd (Sunday next before Advent)

9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Communion	Bulkington
11am	Communion	Potterne
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Seend

Weds 25th

3pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot

Sunday 29th (Advent Sunday)

10am	Benefice Service	Seend

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

From the Registers

Baptism

20th September 2026 Louis Branson at Holy Cross Church, Seend

4th October 2026 Daisy Ross at Holy Cross Church, Seend

Weddings or funerals - none

BULKINGTON NEWS

The Bulkington Village Lunch takes place on
Wednesday, 4th November at 12.15pm for 12.30pm 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 9th November at 14 Chestnut Drive, home of Janet Rawlings. New people always welcome. Bring your own craft item or leave it at home and just come and chat!

BULKINGTON 100 CLUB

We held the draw at the Village Lunch in October and the winners were:

£30	No. 54	Sally Gosling
£25	No. 41	Sue Rose
£20	No. 26	Rugh Elliott
£15	No 14	Sian Stables
£10	No 68	Alex Yarde



Thanks to everyone for your subscription renewals and welcome to our new members this year. Phyl Yarde

The Mobile Library will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on Monday 2nd November – 11.05am – 11.30 am.

BULKINGTON LADIES' GROUP

The Bulkington Ladies' Group will meet at Bulkington Village Hall on Thursday 19th November at 7.30 pm. The Marden Vale Handbell Ringers will be entertaining us with some Christmas Music and other well-known tunes. This is an open evening. All are welcome. Please note it is a week earlier than usual.

We will have the usual "Bring and Share" refreshments and a raffle. Entrance is £3 which includes 2 raffle tickets.

Forward Date. Christmas Coffee Morning.

There will be a Christmas Coffee Morning in Bulkington Village Hall on Saturday 5th December 10.30 am. There will be delicious home-made cakes, mince pies and the usual raffle and Bring & Buy Stall.

Proceeds will be shared with Crisis at Christmas. 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 WI

The October meeting is very important in the WI calendar.
This is when we invite family and friends to join members for Birthday Quiz Night, with Chris Downham acting as Quiz Master.
The hall was full and buzzed with cheers and groans as the answers were read out, while trying to remember it was the taking part that counted!

The evening finished with a piece of WI birthday cake as Seend WI proudly celebrated its 107th birthday, no mean feat in this changing world.

The meeting on 11th November promises to be equally interesting when Anita and Tessa will give a talk on the History of Seend Panto.

Normally our regular meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend on the second Wednesday of the month.
For more information, please email: kenharvey2005@yahoo.co.uk.

Joyce Harvey

SEEND 100 CLUB

October Draw

1	**No. 48**	**R McCulloch**	**£50**
2	**No. 47**	**A White**	**£20**
3	**No. 46**	**O Collinge-Cubberley**	**£20**
4	**No. 146**	**J Philips**	**£20**

Thanks to everyone at the WI birthday quiz

Alison Bottomley

SEEND BRANCH – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

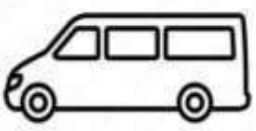
By the time you receive this edition of Spotlight, the initial Poppy Appeal of 2026 should be almost over. If you haven't had anyone collect your Gift Aid envelopes, I do apologise, but we were short of volunteers this year. You can pop the envelopes through my letterbox, at 50 Seend Cleeve, or give me a call and I can collect.

Our AGM and Committee Meeting was held on 22nd October. We also enjoyed a superb performance on 17th October, with the Rod Stewart Experience; many thanks to all who supported the event.

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 November we remember all the fallen from Seend, but especially:
Lance Corporal Henry Hillier, born in 1895, son of Henry James and Henrietta Hillier, of Ivy Cottage, Seend. Henry served with the Wiltshire Regiment and died of wounds on 14 Nov 1917, at Gaza, aged 24. He is buried at Deir Ei Belah War Cemetery, Gaza.
Private William John Cook, born on 15th May 1883, son of Edward and Martha Cook, husband to Selina, of Willow Dale, Seend. William served with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and died of wounds in November 1918 in France, aged 35. He is buried at Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood, France.
Private Reginald Bertram Ellis, born in 1889, son of Albert and Jane Ellis of Seend. Reginald served in the Sussex Yeomanry (Cyclist Battalion) and died of ill health on 1st November 1918, at Seend. He is buried at Seend Holy Cross Church.
Private William James May, born in January 1898 and son of Ellen May, of Inmarsh, Seend. William served with the Wiltshire and Gloucester Regiments. He died of illness on 14 November 1918 in Italy, aged 20. William is buried at the Montecchio Precalcino Communal Cemetery Extension.
Driver David Johnathan Mitchell, born in October 1888, son of Wilmot and Sarah Mitchell, of Nether Street, Bromham. David served with the Royal Artillery and died of influenza on 25 November 1918, at Boulogne, France, aged 30. He is buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery.
Lt Col Sidney Clive Blaber, born on 12 September 1904, Son of Sidney and Edith Florence Blaber, husband to Diana, of Three Ways, Seend. Sidney served with the Royal Artillery and died of wounds following a V2 attack near Antwerp on 26 November 1940, aged 40. He is buried at the Schoonselhof Cemetery Antwerp, Belgium.
Lest we Forget

Steve Cubberley, Chairman – Seend Branch RBL.
steven@cubberley.com

SEEND SHUTTLE NEWS



The December trip to Salisbury is now fully booked,
but there is plenty of space on November 4h so if you would like to do some early Christmas shopping or just fancy a day out contact me on 01380 828757 (which now works) or 07851008349 to book a seat. Thanks , Anita.

SEEND THEATRE CLUB



"Murder before Evensong" at the Watermill Theatre, expected to be a cosy crime, proved to be an enjoyable evening. It was full of red herrings that kept members guessing to the very end in this murder mystery by Rev. Richard Cole. One could revel in 1980s nostalgia, while enjoying the humour of amateur detective work and admiring the slick scene changes and the versatility of the eight cast members.

Our next trip in November is by coach to Bath Theatre Royal for "The Sea", starring Jennifer Saunders. Set in the Edwardian era, the plot is described as a dazzling blend of wild farce, high comedy and brilliant social satire.
Invitations will be sent out shortly ahead of our Christmas Social on Thursday 10th December. This follows a planned trip to Bath Abbey for Handel's "Messiah" on Friday 4th December.

Further theatre trips have been booked for 2027. Details of all our events 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 & DISTRICT RAMBLERS



October is the month for members to head away for some walking a little further afield. This year saw 16 members travel to Lyndhurst in the New Forest for a 2-night break. The group met near to the village of Minstead on the way down and enjoyed a circular walk through woods and over heathland on a sunny afternoon. We then headed to Lyndhurst where we booked into the hotel and enjoyed an evening together with a fun quiz hosted by Anita.

The following day 13 members enjoyed a longer circular walk from the hotel, we followed paths into the forest, over heathland, navigated a small stream whose flow had increased slightly since the pre walk and skimmed past a lovely village. Again the weather was perfect for an early autumn walk.

The walk finished, conveniently, near a nice pub where the other 3 members met us for a well-earned drink. Some people continued into Lyndhurst where there were plenty of cafes to choose from and some went back to the hotel for a rest and/or a swim in the pool. The evening meal was followed by a quiz hosted by Rachel, another fun evening.

The final day started off a little misty, we travelled to Keyhaven near Lymington where we enjoyed a lovely walk around the marshes and back along the sea front, there were plenty of birds to observe. It was a thoroughly enjoyable few days away with great company and great walks.
Thank you to everyone involved.

Next walk is Sunday 15th November, members will be notified in the usual way of the start location. Sandy

SEEND SCHOOL NEWS



Term one is complete and we've managed to cram so much in!
We had a visit from AstroThoughts, who brought us a mobile planetarium! From Reception and Year 1 all the way up to Year 6, everyone was very excited that they got to go inside and discover about the Moon and the planets as well as being an astronaut. Our children absolutely loved exploring the wonders of space, discovering new things, and letting their imaginations soar! Thank you
AstroThoughts for inspiring our little learners and bringing the magic of space right into our school!

Another highlight has been celebrating Harvest. We all came together in the church to reflect on this special time of year. We were joined by Sarah from Storehouse who we have donated to this year; we learnt about the work they do to support families in need and it's been amazing to see how generous our families have been with donations – thank you!

Aside from this, we've welcomed so many new families across our open mornings and personal tours. It's been a wonderful opportunity to show them how special our village school is. On a recent weekend open morning, staff, parents and children began renovating our school garden space too – watch this space for updates on social media.

We've got further open mornings coming up:
Thurs 5th Nov, Tuesday 8th Dec and Weds 6th January.
Personal tours are also available. If you are interested in hearing more about Seend School and would like to book a place on an open morning or a personalised tour, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01380 828334 or by emailing admin@seend.wilts.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!
You can find even more updates on our school Facebook Page using this link:
https://www.facebook.com/share/1D3pBxwHqp/?mibextid=wwXIfr

SEEND PLAYGROUP



This term we have welcomed Sasha and Chloe and hope that they enjoy their time with us.
Our Grandparents morning was well attended and the weather was so warm, we were able to be outside. Thank you to the committee for serving tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits. Also, to Gabrielle for making the delicious cakes. We asked for donations for Macmillian. We made £27.00 on the bracelets left from the Macmillan coffee morning and £47.00 donations. So gave £74.00 to Tessa for Macmillan.
The children enjoyed the two stories Mrs Pillinger brought in from Seend School. The children did the actions with the story "Going on a bear hunt". Then they asked for another story so she read out the new book "Granny Gruffalo".

Drama Tots with Emmi has been brilliant and the children have been so involved with the different themes each week: eg. Dinosaurs and Old McDonalds farm.
The children have enjoyed the sports activities on a Tuesday and are understanding they need to take off their jumpers as they get hot with the energetic activities.

Rose Dick Playleader 07803 403356

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes

Cllr Date: Tuesday 29 September 2026
Time: 18:30–20:30 Venue: Irene Usher Pavilion

1. Attendance Councillors present: Cllr Lack, Cllr Savage, Cllr Akerman,

Cllr Springate, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Halliday, Apologises Cllr Johnstone and Cllr Robinson-Gordon. Also present: Seven residents.

Resignation: Cllr Manning's resignation was accepted.

Comments raised: Cllr Manning requested his reasons for leaving the council to be minuted.
• that the Parish Council's written criteria for the annual appraisal of its sole employee had not been followed
• that the Chair and Clerk were permitted to spend up to £500 without a recorded vote by councillors, while noting that having this authority did not mean it had to be exercised;
• that a cheque payable to the Council for allotment rent had reportedly remained unbanked for several months;
• that the opportunity for councillors to raise minor issues "round the table" had been removed. The resident acknowledged the value of the action tracker but considered that it did not cover all such matters; and
• that, according to information received by the resident, a pension scheme had been selected for the Clerk which would cost the Council more than £600 to join and require ongoing employer contributions of 17% of salary, compared with a government alternative reported to have no joining fee and an employer contribution rate of 5%. The Clerk suggested a letter of thanks would be sent to Cllr Manning for his service to the council.

Introductions: Cllr Tamara Reay introduced herself and updated the parish council and residents on;

2. Formal Business
Proposal: Cllr Savage proposed and Cllr Lack seconded that the apologies for absence be accepted.
Declarations of interest: Cllr Taylor declared an interest as a Director of CLT.
Previous minutes: The minutes were signed by Cllr Halliday.
Agenda coverage note: Agenda items 1–3 were addressed. The date of the previous meeting is not present in the source notes and should be confirmed before approval.

3. Public Participation and Local Matters
Planning applications: A resident asked about planning applications between ThreeWays and Seymour Lodge, including why the matter had gone to Wiltshire Council. Horse Pond and the March planning portal were referenced; further detail is required to confirm the question and response.
Council vacancy: The co-option position was explained. The meeting was advised that ten parish electors had requested an election.
Bus-stop lighting: Lighting at the bus stops at The Stocks and on the High Street was raised. Amy Plumb and the MyWilts app were referenced.
Bus stop 50, The Stocks: A resident offered to share photographs with the Parish Clerk to provide further information. The note stating that the Clerk's email address "will be changed" requires clarification.

White gates: To be included as an agenda item for October.
Rusty Lane: Cllr Halliday reported that owners would like the Council to consider options. The matter, next steps and likely costs are to be discussed as an October agenda item. Cllr Halliday confirmed that Seend Trust was not seeking to purchase the land because it did not wish to assume the liability.
Agenda coverage note: The public participation item was covered through residents' questions and local matters. In accordance with the agenda, no decision should be attributed to public participation unless separately resolved under another agenda item.
4. Action Tracker. The published agenda listed the following updates:
Bleed kits: Ordered; training dates were being arranged.
Defibrillator: A new battery was being ordered.
Councillor training: Held on 29 September 2026, 16:00–18:00.
Local Plan: The Clerk and councillors attended a Wiltshire Council workshop on 21 September 2026.
Sells Green sockets: Not yet completed; the What3words information is available.
White gates: Scheduled for 15 October.
Bollands Hill: Marked complete on the tracker; a further traffic concern was subsequently raised under highways.
Seend Hill: Works scheduled for 5 October–28 November, with awareness signs already in place and plans/diversion map available on the Council website.
Minute-status note: The source meeting notes do not separately record whether each tracker update was formally noted; this should be confirmed.
5. Councillor and Community Updates:
Fly-tipping: Cllr Taylor provided an update. Cllr Lack asked whether the Council could insure against fly-tipping. The old railway track on a private road at Broadland Farm was reported as being used for fly-tipping.
Irene Usher Pavilion: It was reported that hire fees would increase; no minutes were available.
Contested election: Cllr Halliday reported an email from a resident expressing concern about a contested election. A response from Wiltshire Council was awaited.
Weavers' Cottage: Parking and access to the footpath were raised by Cllr Halliday.
Neighbourhood Plan minutes: These will be published on the website. Cllr Halliday will arrange for them to be sent to the Clerk.
20 mph proposal: Jo and Steve Vaux requested a 20 mph limit on the High Street and Rusty Lane. The Clerk said she would raise the request with Highways, and an agenda item will be added.
Noticeboards and seating: Cllr Savage suggested displaying notices about village activities and support. Maintenance was requested for the noticeboard at the shop, the bench at Dial Close and a bench at Bradley Lane. Funding is to be requested through the budget.
Precept: A precept meeting is to be held on a Monday in October; the date requires confirmation.
6. Wiltshire Councillor, Transport and Highways Updates
Bus services: Cllr Reay referred to emergency bus information shared on her social media, along with information about the school bus and private arrangements.
Bollands Hill: In connection with the waterworks road closure, Cllr Taylor requested temporary traffic lights because two lorries could not turn at the same time.
Highway maintenance: White lines and gullies were raised.
Local Plan: The Local Plan place-shaping document was noted.

Area Board: The role of Wiltshire Council area boards and Seend's inclusion in the Devizes area are to be explained. Cllr Reay is Chair. Current areas of focus include anti social behaviour and Devizes Cinema.
Community Speed Watch: Eleven sessions had taken place and a number of residents had been educated. The note that "the range has been alerted" requires clarification.
Police and Crime Commissioner: The PCC is to attend a Seend Parish Council meeting; the date and time are to be confirmed.
Parish Steward and highways agenda item: The agenda asked the Council to consider requesting that light branches overhanging the solar charging panel on the Speed Indicator Device opposite the Brew House be cut back. The source notes refer to the Parish Steward and Bell Hill but do not clearly record a decision on this recommendation; the outcome should be confirmed.
7. Councillor Co-option. Working Groups and Planning Councillor co-option: The agenda stated that applications were open and would be considered at the November meeting, with candidates invited to attend and a vote held under the Co-option Policy. The meeting notes instead record that ten electors had requested an election. The current vacancy process and whether agenda item 7 was superseded should be confirmed.
Representative updates: The agenda called for reports from Lye Field, Community Centre representatives, the Neighbourhood Plan, Area Board, Police representative and Speed Watch, together with Business and Tourism Working Group business. The notes record updates relating to Lye Field/fly-tipping, the Community Centre, Neighbourhood Plan, Area Board and Speed Watch. No distinct Police representative or Business and Tourism Working Group report is captured; confirm whether there was no report.
Emergency Plan: Phillip Springfield and Cllr Lack were referenced; roles and required action are to be confirmed.
Footpath Liaison Representative: Appointment deferred to November.
Councillor working dates: Updates were noted.
Walking information: Cllr Taylor will provide information for Spotlight, including walking contacts and the Wiltshire Walkers group.
Call to action: A call to action and examples of work are to be emailed to councillors.
Artwork: Expenditure of £50 was approved for three artists to provide sample work to the Council.
Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Taylor discussed community engagement and considered it unwise to proceed with a rural housing-needs exercise advised by Place Studio. Social media posts are to promote both the Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan.
Working group terms of reference: The terms of reference are to be reviewed following concerns raised by Cllr Taylor.
Planning matters: Further questions were raised concerning the yew trees and their replacement in relation to a planning application. The planning application number is to be added once confirmed.
A planning working group/sub-group is to be formed. The terms of reference list Cllr Lack, Cllr Savage and Cllr Springate. The planning group is to be included in Spotlight.
Training: HB will arrange planning training for councillors.

7. Winter Tidy Day. The recommendation to hold a Winter Tidy Day was approved. Date and time: 17 October, 9.30–11.30; the source note states "pm", so whether this is morning or evening requires confirmation.
Meeting points/coordinators:
Seend – Cllr Taylor, Community Centre.
Seend Cleeve – Cllr Halliday, The Brewery Inn.
Sells Green – Cllr Akerman and Cllr Johnstone, Three Magpies.
The Stocks – to be confirmed.
Grist is to be approached regarding sponsorship of litter pickers, high-visibility clothing and related equipment.
The Parish Steward was referenced in connection with cutting back the overhanging branch on the Speed Indicator Device at Bell Hill on the Worton side. Schools are to be invited; the source note is incomplete and the full action requires confirmation.
8. Finance and Payments. The agenda provided for receipt of the income and expenditure summary, bank reconciliation and reserves statement, approval of payments for September 2026, and confirmation of the councillors authorised to approve payments.
Payments listed:
Hugo Fox – £23.99
Scribe – £37.20
Clerk's salary – £600.00
Election fees, Wiltshire Council – £400.00
Barefoot Signs – £104.40
Defib Warehouse – £267.60
Place Studios – £363.07
Total listed payments: £1,796.26.
Bank signatory recommendation: The agenda recommended appointing an additional councillor as an authorised signatory on the Council's Lloyds Bank accounts and authorising the Clerk to complete the necessary banking mandate and administrative arrangements.
External auditor's report: The external auditor's report was noted. Any findings, recommendations or actions arising from the report should be added once confirmed.
Clerk's absence: The Clerk informed the Council that she would not be in attendance at Tuesday's meeting, as she had been invited to attend the Houses of Parliament in her capacity as Clerk. **Seend Parish Council**

NEWS FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Wiltshire Local Plan Review

Thank you to everyone who has responded to Wiltshire Council's Local Plan consultation. I have submitted my own response and am grateful to the Parish Councils, community groups and residents who have taken part. Local knowledge is essential to securing the best outcome for our communities.
The new Local Plan is being prepared against significantly increased housing targets set by the Labour Government. It is vital that this is supported by the infrastructure, services and jobs required to create sustainable communities.
Protecting the rural character of our area remains a priority.

Farming is central to our local economy and landscape, and the Plan should safeguard productive farmland, valued green spaces and the wider countryside while supporting rural businesses.

Addressing traffic congestion around Devizes, particularly on the London Road and Bath Road corridors, must also be a key focus. The proposed Devizes Gateway rail station offers an important opportunity to improve connectivity, reduce car dependency and support growth across the wider area.

The next stage in the Plan development is expected in spring 2027, and I will be working hard to ensure that the needs of communities across Devizes Rural West and the wider Devizes area are properly considered. As decisions are made on housing, infrastructure, transport and the countryside, local voices must remain at the heart of the process. I encourage everyone to stay engaged and continue making their views known.

Pothole repair performance deteriorates further

Performance against the council's target for repairing the most serious Category 1 (P1) potholes within 24 hours has declined during 2026. While the target is 95%, performance fell from 83.7% in the January to March quarter to 82.9% between April and June. I know this is one of the most important issues for residents, who rightly expect dangerous defects to be repaired quickly and effectively.

These figures are deeply disappointing and raise serious questions about the administration's grip on one of the council's most basic responsibilities. They come despite significant investment secured under the previous Conservative administration, including an additional £10 million for highways maintenance. I have also challenged the decision to cut the number of Bobcat repair machines from three to two. At a time when residents are seeing more potholes and longer repair times, reducing frontline operational capacity sends entirely the wrong message.

This decline in performance could not come at a worse time as we head into autumn and winter, when road surfaces inevitably deteriorate further. Wiltshire residents deserve better than excuses. The administration must set out a credible plan to improve response times, tackle the growing backlog of repairs and restore confidence in the condition of our roads.

In the meantime, please continue to report potholes and other highway defects through MyWilts. The more issues that are reported, the harder it is for the council to ignore the scale of the problem.

Roadworks Update

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding during a period of significant roadworks across our area.

I am pleased that works at Norney Bridge have now been completed and the route has fully reopened. Following concerns that emergency services were not fully aware of the closure arrangements, I have asked Wiltshire Council's highways team to review the procedures used for communicating future road closures.

Wessex Water's Phase 2 works in Seend are continuing and are currently scheduled to remain in place until 27 November. I am aware of residents' concerns regarding traffic levels and the volume of large vehicles using Bollands Hill, and I have asked that the situation continues to be closely monitored by both Highways and Wessex Water.

Residents may also be aware of planned SSEN works in The Brittox and Little Brittox. Following intervention by Devizes Councillors these works have been re-scheduled to help minimise disruption to the town centre during the important Christmas trading period.

Thank you again for your forbearance while these essential works are carried out. I will continue to work with all parties to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum wherever possible.

Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.

Tel: 07711 824864 Email: tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISIONER

One issue I hear raised regularly by businesses, residents and local communities is the impact that crime and anti-social behaviour can have on our town and city centres.

Whilst individual incidents may seem minor in isolation, their effect can be far-reaching. Retail crime, anti-social behaviour and public disorder can undermine confidence, affect trade, discourage visitors and change how people experience the places where they live and work. The reality is that strong local economies and thriving town centres depend upon people feeling safe.

Too often, offences such as shoplifting are dismissed as low-level crimes. I do not accept that view. Behind every offence is a business owner dealing with lost income, a shop worker facing abuse or intimidation, or a resident questioning whether their town centre remains a place they want to visit. These crimes have real consequences and they deserve to be taken seriously.

That is why tackling retail crime and anti-social behaviour remains a priority for Wiltshire Police, my office and our partners across Wiltshire and Swindon.

November's Safer Business Action Week is an opportunity to highlight the action being taken to support businesses and improve safety in our town centres. It is also an opportunity to recognise what can be achieved when organisations work together with a shared purpose.

Over the past year, partnership approaches such as the Business Crime Reduction Partnership in Salisbury have demonstrated the value of improved intelligence sharing, stronger communication and coordinated action against those causing the greatest harm. Whilst no single initiative will eliminate these issues entirely, experience shows that businesses, police, local authorities and community organisations are far more effective when they work together than when they work alone.

Wiltshire remains the safest force area in the South West, but maintaining that position requires constant effort and a willingness to tackle problems before they become entrenched.

My expectation is clear. Residents, visitors and businesses should be able to enjoy our town and city centres without feeling intimidated, unsafe or ignored. By continuing to invest in partnership working, supporting effective policing and holding organisations to account for delivering results, we can ensure our high streets remain places where communities can prosper and confidence can grow.

SEEND SPORTING DRAMATIC AND LITERARY NEWS

Autumn is a relatively quiet time with many sports donning mothballs only to be reawakened once spring returns, hence a shorter than usual column this month.

Tennis :



The winter league has started. Matches are on a Sunday and this season will include playing two Bath teams, Bath Lawn Tennis Club and Combe Grove, which will be a new challenge for us. The winter league format is mixed doubles and we always see it as an opportunity to introduce new players, so any of you out there who would like some competitive tennis over these colder months please do contact me .

The cup presented to Seend for winning Division 4 of the Chippenham and District League I have now placed in the bar at the Community Centre.

Literary :

Ric Ellinger and Henry Stockham have embarked on a series of Friday night outings which they hope will result in a useful compendium for local foodies. At the start of each weekend they trawl the local laybys, trading estates and market squares looking for kebab vans, purchase their suppers and then head home to consume these meals over the kitchen table making culinary notes as they go. They then hope to publish their written results. Yes, this is all very interesting and even commendable but the end product will not amount to literature Ric, however loosely that term is used. Like you I didn't believe this either but it is indeed true, just ask them.

Places of Great Historical Sporting Events :

Last month's clue was " Something from us, a slurry pit ", two words, 8 and 7 letters. The key ingredient was of course ….us, a…ie USA giving the overall answer of Flushing Meadows. Think slurry, outdoors….

John Williams yet again came up with the correct answer but I am now banning him from collecting a winner's free drink until the new year so as to give others a chance. You are just too good at this John !…but do try this month's.

Novembers teaser is 9 and 7 letters and to help you all the second word is "stadium" so you are simply looking for the 9 letter name of the stadium. Here is the clue, "where Tabitha ate nearly all of her Far Eastern breakfast". As ever the first correct answer, with workings, shown to Emma at the Community Centre, leads to a free drink.

All news, fixtures and results for the bumper Christmas Edition to the weighing in room by 16th November please.

Frankie Goddard 07854 660582

BITS AND BOBS

DEVIZES FLOWER CLUB



Meet on the 3rd Wednesday every month upstairs in Devizes Town Hall 7 for 7.30pm. Visitors £6 on the door. Annual subscription £35. Contact us: devizesflowerclubuk@gmail.com - facebook: @devizesflowerclub instagram: devizes_flowerclub

MARKET LAVINGTON CHRISTMAS COUNTRY FAIR

We're back! The fifteenth annual **CHRISTMAS COUNTRY FAIR** in aid of **the Army Benevolent Fund** will be held on **Saturday November 14th** at **Market Lavington Community Hall** from 10am to 2pm. Start your Christmas shopping with us! You're bound to find the perfect present from lots of stalls. Christmas cards and decorations. Plus a Tombola and refreshments!

Profits from the Fair will help the ABF to help soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families. We have so far raised nearly £16,000! Entrance is free to the Fair, but a £1 coin (or more!) in one of our buckets as you come in would make all the difference!

Our November lecture is on November **18th** in the **Corn Exchange** 11am

"Lest We Forget – The Moving Story of Britain's War Memorials

Lecture by Andrew Davies

Britain has over 60,000 war memorials, each with their own sad and emotional story to tell. They also represent our largest collection of public art - more than 1,300 are listed. We will explore the story of our war memorials, including such masterpieces as Sir Edwin Lutyens' Cenotaph and monumental Thiepval Gate and CS Jaggers' Royal Artillery memorial at Hyde Park Corner. Especially memorable is the work of the Commonwealth (Imperial) War Graves Commission and the new National Arboretum in Staffordshire. We will look too at the Scottish War Memorial in Edinburgh.

It's our 20th Anniversay in Devizes !! Why not come to this lecture as a guest?- £8 donation on the door.

Or to join the Society, go to www.theartssocietydevizes.org or search Facebook for The Arts Society Devizes.

The Wharf Theatre

The Wharf Theatre in Devizes is thrilled to announce a major new chapter in its artistic programme: the theatre has officially become a **registered screening centre for National Theatre Live**, bringing world-class theatre from the West End directly to Wiltshire.

From November 2026, audiences will be able to enjoy **up to 12 NT Live productions every year**. The programme launches with an exceptional first screening:

The Misanthrope – starring Golden Globe winner Sandra Oh

Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 7.30pm Tickets: **£18 + booking fee** Discounts available for Wharf Theatre members.

Tickets for *The Misanthrope* and the upcoming NT Live season are available now via the Wharf Theatre website and Box Office.

SAVE THE DATE

Lavington Community Choir Christmas Concert

Friday 18th December at 7.30pm

Market Lavington Community Hall, St Mary's Rd,
Market Lavington, SN10 4DG



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

MELKSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY



On December the 12th in the United Church Melksham at 7.30 pm we shall be singing a fine selection folk songs, anthems and carols all arranged by John Rutter one of the best English arrangers of choral music. Tickets on the door. Hope to see you there.



The Philomel Singers present

The Spirit of Christmas



A concert of superb choral and other music for the Christmas Season
Church of the Holy Cross, Seend
Saturday, 12 December 2026 at 7.30pm
Concert given in aid of Seend Church
Mulled wine and mince pies will be served
Tickets: £12 (£10 in advance) £4 students (£2 in advance)
Telephone: 07977 576647
or from www.wegottickets.com/ThePhilomel Singers

Don't forget to look at our November online colour supplement, - available shortly on seend.org.uk
Please send photos of village events that you would like published to spotlight@seend.org.uk

AND FINALLY……

Why can't dogs dance ? They have two left feet!

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
Day Schools -Tessa Doe 07719 917814
Fawlty 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 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.seend clt.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