

# SPOTLIGHT

Seend & Bulkington



MAY 2022

## DIARY DATES FOR LATE APRIL

- 27<sup>th</sup> Quiz night at The Brewery Inn  
28<sup>th</sup> Bulkington Ladies Group 7.30 pm Village Hall  
30<sup>th</sup> Seend Beer Festival (Sold out!)

## DIARY DATES FOR MAY

- 4<sup>th</sup> Seend Shuttle Trip to Salisbury  
4<sup>th</sup> Bulkington Village Lunch, The Well, 12.15pm  
5<sup>th</sup> Seend PC meeting 7 pm Irene Usher Pavilion  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Meeting 8 pm Irene Usher Pavilion  
6<sup>th</sup> First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30am  
6<sup>th</sup> Swishing Party, Seend Community Centre, 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm  
8<sup>th</sup> Seend & District Ramblers  
9<sup>th</sup> Bulkington Tea, Craft and Chat, 2-4pm  
11<sup>th</sup> Seend WI Meeting, Pavilion, 7.30 pm  
11<sup>th</sup> Quiz night at The Brewery Inn  
13<sup>th</sup> Royal British Legion Annual Lecture, Seend CC, 7.30 pm  
**14<sup>th</sup> LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO JUNE SPOTLIGHT**  
14<sup>th</sup> Live music at The Brewery Inn – Wilts Air Ambulance fundraiser  
15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Christian Aid Week  
17<sup>th</sup> Melksham & District Flower Arranging Society, Community Centre, 2pm  
18<sup>th</sup> Seend WI Craft and Chatter, Pavilion, 2-4pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> Mobile Library, 9.40 am Seend The Lye: 10.05 am Seend Cleeve phone box; 11.05 am Well Inn Car Park  
25<sup>th</sup> Nosh and Natter, Community Centre, 12 for 12.30pm  
25<sup>th</sup> Quiz night at The Brewery Inn  
26<sup>th</sup> Bulkington Ladies' trip to Lowden Garden Centre  
31<sup>st</sup> Seend Parish Council Meeting

## DIARY DATES FOR EARLY JUNE

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration, Community Centre  
5<sup>th</sup> Jubilee picnics, Seend Lye Field and Bulkington Recreation Ground  
11<sup>th</sup> Seend Cleeve Open Gardens, 1-6pm

### Newcomer to Seend or Bulkington?

Visit [www.seend.org.uk](http://www.seend.org.uk), [www.bulkington.org.uk](http://www.bulkington.org.uk) and the Spotlight, Seend Community Centre and Seend Village Group **facebook** pages.

### **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](http://www.seend.org.uk/seend_link)**

## **WELCOME TO MAY 2022 SPOTLIGHT**

We've got a Bank Holiday weekend to look forward to at the beginning of this month so fingers crossed for fine weather for it. Early May, with its lush greenery and floral scents, is one of our favourite times of the year. The usual late May Bank Holiday has been changed to the Jubilee one in June.



Congratulations to the Great Bulkington Railway for raising funds for Ukrainian refugees, and to the group of five novice runners who ran 5K to raise money for the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

This month, in our villages, you can go 'swishing' for a new wardrobe in the Community Centre, enjoy live music while raising money for Wilts Air Ambulance in the Brewery Inn, and participate in quizzes, lunches, outings, teas and coffees galore.

Seend Parish Council would love to see a good turnout for the Annual Village Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May: a chance to find out what your democratic representatives have been doing. And Richard Walker would LOVE to hear from folks willing to help prepare for the Fete in August.

Inside this magazine you should find a copy of 'Happenings!' (the Community Centre newsletter), a Christian Aid envelope and (in Seend only) a Thursday Shuttle trip timetable.

**Don't forget to look at the Spotlight online colour supplement on [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk) which this month includes photos of the beautiful clock made by Seend's George Newton (see the article by Lee Borrett), Hatty's retirement and of our mighty charity 5K runners.**

**Spotlight Contacts:** Contributions for the June 2022 edition (copy by Saturday 14th May) can be emailed to [spotlight@seend.org.uk](mailto:spotlight@seend.org.uk) or delivered to Seend Post & Provisions. Editors: Tessa Doe (01380 828617) and Sue Isaac (828461). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to Sue or Tessa – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401), Jan Field (827140) for printing and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Potential volunteer deliverers or printers can contact Fiona or Jan. Jan is also experimenting with sharing editorial duties with Sue and Tessa.

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

**PDFs:** We cannot normally use PDF or jpg files of posters etc as they require a specific shape and space. Word documents (or compatible) – without any fancy formatting - give us the flexibility to adapt your wording and pictures to fit the space available. Thanks.

## SEEND EVENTS IN APRIL AND BEYOND

### EVENTS IN SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

**FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING** - 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30 am. Proper coffee or tea (plus a refill) and a slice of homemade cake for just £2.50! All welcome!



### *Swishing Party*

Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> 6.30 – 9.30pm

Swap your way to a new wardrobe! It's free!

Bring a handful of clean clothes, handbags, shoes and/or accessories that you no longer love and swap for others that take your fancy.

Free Entry - Drinks and free nibbles available



**NOSH + NATTER** - The popular lunch club takes place on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon for 12.30pm**. Two courses of delicious home-made dishes and refreshments for £7.50. Please book by calling Pauline on 01380 828638 or 07879 494429 –and please let them know if for any reason you can't make it after all.

**If you're reading this before SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**, it's the **SEEND BEER FESTIVAL!** From 12 noon to 11 pm. But it's **SOLD OUT!** If you're lucky, there may be returned tickets on offer on the Seend Village facebook group page.



**QUEEN'S PLATINIUM JUBILEE** - **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** – Celebrate this special occasion at the Centre - there will be a BBQ on the terrace from 6pm. Then enjoy live music from 'People Like US' during the evening from 8pm. The Beacon will be lit at 9:15 pm. Everyone is welcome! Free Entry.

**BAR OPENING HOURS** - Weds, Thurs and Sat 7 pm till closing; Sundays 12 noon—4 pm; Fridays from 6 pm. Come along to the regular TGIF meetup (with free nibbles) on Fridays in the Members' bar and terrace. Catch up on all the local gossip! Newcomers always welcome.



[www.seendcommunitycentre.com](http://www.seendcommunitycentre.com)

[seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com](mailto:seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com)

### BREWERY INN EVENTS

11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May – Quiz Nights

14<sup>th</sup> May – Music from Sour Apple: a fundraiser for Wilts Air Ambulance



### **Seend WI Craft and Chatter Group**

**Craft and Chatter group** will meet on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May** 2pm to 4pm in the Pavilion. Bring your own craft or just come for tea, cake and chatter. Everyone welcome, you do not have to be a member of the WI. Do come along. **Please note** this will be our last Craft meeting until the autumn as the Pavilion will be closed for significant refurbishment work over the summer.

Contact Joyce Harvey 01380 828511.

## **JUBILEE BIG PICNIC - SUNDAY JUNE 5TH**

Seend WI are aiming to facilitate an afternoon family Big Picnic event on the Lye Field to celebrate the Jubilee. The idea is to bring your own picnic and the WI will provide drinks. Keep the date free, and an eye on notice boards and Facebook. Further details will be available nearer the time as this event will be weather dependent.



Calling all gardeners in Seend Cleeve

### **THE CLEEVE OPEN GARDENS**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022 1.00pm – 6.00pm

Cake and cream teas - Ice cream and plant stall

Tickets £10.00 (Children Free)

Includes parking and Shuttle Service

If you love your garden and would like to share it with others then please contact Tina

Yockney asap on 01380 827139 [/tinayockney@btinternet.com](mailto:tinayockney@btinternet.com)

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

*(Volunteer bakers needed to make and donate cakes for the Seend Cleeve open gardens .*

*If you can help please contact Anne Ewing on 828557.)*

---

## **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.)*

### **RALPH NEWMAN**

Residents of Seend from 1944 - 1983 will undoubtedly have known Ralph, who sadly passed away in March, aged 78 years. In his early years Ralph lived at Rew Farm and as he grew up he became a very accomplished sportsman, excelling at both football and cricket. For a number of years he was a consistent centre half for Seend F.C., always being hard but fair and played within the rules of the game. As a cricketer it was my pleasure to open the batting with him on many occasions for Seend C.C. He was fine batsman, good fielder, a more than useful spin bowler, and a true gentleman both on and off the field of play. Ralph, Rachel and their son Peter moved away from the village in 1983 but returned to live in Melksham in later years where, amongst other things, he played bowls, umpired in local cricket matches, and did lots of local voluntary work.

His popularity was very evident at Seend Church on 7th April, when his funeral service was attended by a large number of people, many sporting the black and yellow colours of Melksham F.C. and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Farewell Ralph, it was a pleasure to have known you. May you rest in peace.

Brian Hunt



## **ALAN LEWIS**

Alan died on 22nd March at home in Seend Cleeve. He became ill soon after moving to the village from Edington three and a half years ago. He loved the wonderful views from his conservatory daybed and took a keen interest in village news. Alan retired 4 years ago as Professor of Psychology at the University of Bath and was given the honour of Emeritus Professor on retirement.

He is much missed by his wife Sandie and daughters Emma and Frankie.

### **Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion**

**&**

### **Seend Lye Field, Rusty Lane, Seend**

Available for parties, meetings, sports events

Book online now at: [www.seendlyefield.org](http://www.seendlyefield.org)

Email: [seendlrf@gmail.com](mailto:seendlrf@gmail.com)



### **THE SEEND FUND - A REMINDER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES**

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

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

Remember the Seend fund is your local fund. Anyone living in or closely associated with Seend, including our close neighbours in Bulkington and Poulshot, can apply by emailing the secretary ([anitashea@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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 VILLAGE WEBSITE**

Neil Yockney would still love to hear from somebody in the village who has the knowledge, talents and willingness to help revamp and modernise the Seend village website in a voluntary capacity. If that's you, please call Neil on 01380 827139 or email [neilyockney@btinternet.com](mailto:neilyockney@btinternet.com)

Thank you.

## **Seend Community Centre URGENTLY needs YOUR support**

I am sure you will agree that the Community Centre is an important resource for the village and, indeed other people across Wiltshire. We provide space for a huge range of activities and social events, we have a licensed bar and most of you will have been inside the Centre in recent years for one reason or another.

However, the Centre can't run itself. The Management Committee acts as the executive, making decisions, fund-raising, employing staff and ensuring the Centre is able to provide services now and into the future. ***Without a committee, the Centre cannot continue.*** Most of the committee members have been in place for a long time and have given many years volunteering; we need more people to keep this going.

We are therefore asking you to consider joining the Management Committee. The Chair has retired after 10 years of service and the Secretary plans to retire later in the year after an even longer stint. We also need other committee members to spread the load and be of support. We have asked the community a number of times for help but with no response.

**It is important everyone understands that if we are unable to recruit new committee members, the Centre will have to close in its present form.**

Anyone who is interested is very much encouraged to apply and if you would like more information, please get in touch:

Hatty Stafford Charles - [hattysc@gmail.com](mailto:hattysc@gmail.com)

Richard Whitehead [whitehead@agritec.plus.com](mailto:whitehead@agritec.plus.com)

David Purdy [davidpurdy100@gmail.com](mailto:davidpurdy100@gmail.com)

## **NEWS FROM SEEND PARISH COUNCIL**

**Councillor Vacancies:** A reminder that we still have two Councillor vacancies. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you are interested in joining the Parish Council.

**Annual Parish Meeting:** The Annual Parish Meeting takes place on 5th May at 8pm at the Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion, with refreshments available from 7.30pm. This is a public meeting and all parishioners are invited to attend. Seend clubs and organisations are especially invited to give a short report on their year's activities. Please let the Clerk know if you wish to give a report. If you cannot attend, but would like to submit a report to be read out on your behalf, please send it to the Clerk. Please note, we will be holding the Annual Parish Council meeting on the same evening, but at the earlier time of 7pm. We will elect chairman and vice chairman at this meeting and re-adopt some of the constitution documents. This should be a short meeting as there will not be any other council business at this meeting. Members of the parish are still welcome to attend.

Both agendas will be put on the PC website a week before the meeting.

**Platinum Jubilee Tree Planting** – Following a note in the April addition of Spotlight, there has been some interest expressed by parishioners willing to plant trees on their land. The Parish Council will consider purchasing and supplying a number of trees for parishioners. There would obviously be an upper limit on the number of trees we can afford to buy. These will be purchased from The Woodland Trust. <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/.../queens-green-canopy> and supplied in the Autumn. Please email the Parish Clerk to register your

interest and the number of trees you would like (and type if you have a preference). Responsibility for the trees and their on-going maintenance will be down to the landowner. It would be good if we can get at least 70 new trees planted in the parish, one to mark each of the years the Queen has been on the throne!

**CPRE Best Kept Village Competition** – Seend is again entering this competition, thanks to Councillor John Williams who will do all the co-ordination for it as he has done in previous years. Anyone wanting to offer help can email him: [john.williams@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:john.williams@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

### **CAN YOU HELP TO MOVE THE SPOTLIGHT PRINTER?**

Because of the refurbishment of the Pavilion starting in June, the Spotlight printer may not be accessible with a power source to print the July edition of Spotlight. One possible solution is to move the printer to another site – but this needs appropriate equipment, transport and person-power as it is a large and very heavy item. If you think you might be able to offer those requirements out of the kindness of your heart – or if you have other ideas as to how to solve the problem, please contact Neil Yockney on 01380 827139. Otherwise, we may have to delay the printing of that issue. Many thanks.

### **CHARITY 5K IN MEMORY OF STEVE ‘COOKIE’ COOK**

Breeni, Rachel, Chris, Katie and John ran from Caen Hill locks to the Barge to raise funds for Wiltshire Air Ambulance, in memory of Steve Cook. They were aiming to raise £2,500 but the total raised so far is a splendid £3,622. They all finished together as planned. Well done!

*(Photos of the team on their run are in our online colour supplement on [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk))*

### **SEEND FLOWER SHOW**

The Seend Flower Show will be held this year on the 13 August 2022. Cup Winners 2019 - please hand in your cups to John Williams, Canty Neuk, High Street Seend (828965) or call Julia on 827082.

Helpers on the day please contact Julia ([julia.white@bioss.com](mailto:julia.white@bioss.com)), or any committee member.



### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK Saturday May 15th. - Saturday May 21st. 2022**

Christian Aid, with over 70 years' experience, works to bring an end to poverty in nearly 40 countries, helping people in Africa, Asia and the Middle East as well as Latin America, the Caribbean and parts of Europe by addressing the root causes as well as the effects of poverty. They work with 475 local, national & international partner organizations, some are Christian, some Muslim, Jewish or Hindu – some are of no religious persuasion at all. Christian Aid's primary concern is that partners are good at what they do. The work is inspired by Christian values of faith, charity, hope and truth. Put simply 'aid' is what Christian Aid does, 'Christian' is why they do it. The usual emergencies have continued this year in the poorer countries with increasing demands for medical materials to fight the pandemic. Sadly, the vaccine rollout, so quick in the richer countries, is still very slow in the poorer countries. Only 13 per cent of people in low-income countries have been vaccinated, compared with almost 70 per cent in high-income countries according to UN figures in March 2022. The World



Health's Organisation's CO-VAX system to help with procurement of vaccines so they are available to rich and poor alike is not working. Partly, the rich countries are not generous enough, but often poor countries do not have adequate health facilities to care for the COVID sick or to roll out the vaccine,

Christian Aid planned in 2022 to focus on: -

- (a) Testing innovative microcredit models that build resilience to climate-related shocks and stresses so encouraging small businesses that are especially relevant to climate change.
- (b) Developing new models to support women's economic empowerment.

In terms of countries the emphasis was to be on Zimbabwe, but these plans were made before Feb. 24th. Inevitably, once Russia invaded Ukraine the emphasis had to change. By the end of March, the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee) had already collected £200million - only the 2004 Tsunami produced anything like this sum so fast, and it is still growing.

Christian Aid has been allocated 7% of the £200M - most needs to be spent in the first 6 months and is being distributed by 3 partner organisations working in the area. Christian Aid prefers to work with local organisations that are familiar with both places and people. The money is to be spent on emergency help for those displaced people within Ukraine or fleeing to nearby countries and is used for food, shelter, clothing and medicines - sufficient for refugees to survive since the long-term situation is at present unclear. But more monies will be available for reconstruction and other long-term help when the needs are clearer.

Important though Ukraine is, Christian Aid still needs to allocate funds to their more traditional work, paying heed to their 2022 plans and developing huge problems especially in Afghanistan, South Sudan and Yemen.

Asking for more money seems hard when you may have probably contributed recently to one of the many Ukraine appeals and are likely to have little to spare due to the sharp rise in the cost of living. But those in the Wellsprings Benefice have always been generous to Christian Aid so I hope you will feel able to support Christian Aid Week once again. As usual, for your convenience, a Christian Aid envelope is inside this May edition of Spotlight; please keep it safely. The collectors will call during the week of 15th – 21st. May. It helps them considerably and is more convenient to you if the donation is ready when they call. I appreciate it is a nuisance but if you pay income tax, please complete the Gift Aid slip too, it increases your amount to Christian Aid by 25% at no extra cost to yourself. Then tear off the slip, place inside the envelope, moisten the strip at the top of the envelope and fold.

If you are on holiday during Christian Aid week or miss your collector for any other reason, please hand your envelope in at the Village Shop in Seend or to Liz Futter, Mill Lane, Bulkington or to me at Whites Farm, Seend Cleeve, whichever is easiest.

Thank you, Dick Church

## **SEEND LYE RECREATION FIELD NEWS**

The Seend Lye Recreation Field (SLRF) committee has been successful in obtaining significant funding for updating the Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion. Supporters of the Lye Field will know that the much-loved Pavilion has its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023. The Pavilion was built in a time when the cost of energy was of little consideration. The building's systems are now showing their age and running costs are rising. The moment to do something about

this has arrived. The committee plans to invest close to £100,000 through a project named Carbon Challenge 2023. The work will be carried out across two discrete phases with Phase 1 commencing this summer. The aim of the work is to make the building more energy efficient through improving building fabric, insulation and heating and lighting systems. The Suez Communities Trust has kindly agreed to fund Phase 1; Phase 2 funding has yet to be obtained.

Obviously, the SLRF charity is expected to contribute funds to both refurbishment phases so this year's **Seend Fete and Flower Show** will be super-important in helping with this. Richard Walker, Seend News, is heading up the fete organisation this year. Richard needs your help. Volunteer interest welcome at [seendnews@gmail.com](mailto:seendnews@gmail.com). Can we count you in? If you have White Elephant stall artifacts you wish to donate please contact us via [seendlrf@gmail.com](mailto:seendlrf@gmail.com). We would like to say a big thank you for the White Elephant donations already received.

Steve Vaux, SLRF Secretary

## **COMMUNITY LAND TRUST NEWS**

CLT Chairman, George Clarke, has now moved from the parish and has retired as chairman and director. In his departing message, George thanked his co-directors for their support over the past years and months. George commented that he felt confident the CLT is in safe hands and expressed his appreciation for the working relationship with White Horse Housing Association. George said, "They have in every way proved to be the partner we were looking for. I cannot praise them enough." George added, "I believe now, as I have always believed, that this site will be a lasting benefit to the community and that we will be able to feel justifiably proud of our achievement. I hope that I might get an invitation to the grand opening ceremony."

The CLT affordable passive housing project will commence in May with the creation of site access points. The build time will be approximately 60 weeks, depending on weather. The homes will be ready for occupation in summer 2023. Information on how to apply for the homes can be found at: <https://www.seendclt.org/how-to-apply-for-a-clt-home.html>

Steve Vaux, Seend CLT



## **GEORGE NEWTON OF SEEND**

### **A Brief Account of George Newton's Earliest Surviving Lantern Clocks**

Almost 400 years ago in the year 1625 George Newton of Seend who was born around 1605, became the village blacksmith. His father, Richard Newton, had just died leaving George his forge. However, Richard also bequeathed his son a clock and it is possible that George Newton copied his father's gifted clock to become a self-taught clockmaker, making his first lantern clocks in Seend from the mid-1630s and performing all his own engraving to the wonderfully charming dials and frets of his earliest examples. History suggests that George was more than capable. The famous diarist John Aubrey, compiler of 'Brief Lives', wrote about his visit to Seend in 1666 :- "I went to the smythe, George Newton, an ingeniose man, who from a blacksmith turned clockmaker to fiddlemaker and he assured me that he has melted of this oare\* in his forge, which the oare of the Forest of Deane &c. will not doe".

In June 2001 the Antiquarian Horology Society (AHS) published a well-researched and very interesting article about George Newton of Seend. The article was written by the then leading lantern clock expert the Late John Hooper who illustrated what is probably George Newton's earliest known surviving lantern clock and dated it as being made around c1636. John, who was the co-author of the book 'English 30 Hour Clocks' was a highly respected authority on lantern clocks. His article is an important reference point, showing that George Newton was probably making lantern clocks prior to the English Civil War of 1642-1651.

Another very early Lantern clock by George Newton is shown in this month's Spotlight Online Colour Supplement. It is an impressive 17 inches high and is larger than a standard size lantern clock. It is closely similar to John Hooper's example in every aspect, including the wonderfully charming dial and fret design, their distinctive long arrowhead iron hands and the massive proportions of their heavy-duty brass movement castings including the pillars, plates and crucifix bars which are incredibly over 6mm thick in some areas. Newton has however, engraved this example with a more confident hand and has improved on his spelling, therefore it's probably slightly later and possibly dating between around 1636-1639. Both examples have the exact same wonderfully charming, heraldic symbols and flowers engraved on their dials and frets which represent countries including the Tudor Rose (England), Thistle (Scotland), Shamrock (Ireland) and Fleur-de-lis (France). Interestingly, these same Heraldic flowers are also present on the Coat of Arms of the Kingdom of England from 1603 to 1649 used by King James I and Charles I and suggest to me that George Newton was a very proud and patriotic Englishman.

George Newton was a Church warden of the Church of the Holy Cross at Seend from April 1664. He died in 1681. Only four lantern clocks have come to light that were made by George Newton of Seend. I think that you will agree that he was an incredibly gifted individual!

Lee Borrett

\*local Seend ore

*(Please do look at the excellent photos of this wonderful Seend clock in the online colour supplement on [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk). Thank you Lee. Eds.)*



---

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **The View from my Window.**

May! At last; one of my favourite months.

At the time of writing the frosts have gone (I do hope this turns out to be prophetic and that my wisteria will have survived and provided the usual sumptuous handfuls of hanging bunches). Easter will have come and gone with all the frenetic activities in the churches, and now we can settle down to a peaceful quiet time and look forward to a glorious summer.

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter festivities and that whether people of faith or not, you were able to share in the general feeling of goodwill that always accompanies Easter. There is a lovely Easter hymn which says, "Now the green blade rises from the buried grain" and as we look around, we can indeed see so many fields which are no longer brown and plain but green and bursting with the new life that comes with Spring. The hymn goes on to say, "Love is

come again like wheat that springs up green” and that of course is the Easter message, personified in the man Jesus who came to this planet over 2000 years ago, and who loved and suffered and died, and yet like the seed and the wheat, grew again. In his case after three days; in the case of the wheat, a season; both miracles when you think about it.

So, I began to wonder why is wheat like love? Wheat, like love, lies dormant sometimes doesn't it, and then it grows and flourishes. First just a few blades of what feels like tender shoots of grass, and then the whole field is covered with a greenish tinge and then the glory of a field of wheat like waves on the sea; and then of course as it ripens, golden in the sunshine. “Fair waved the golden corn”, another lovely hymn. Love can be like that, I think. But it can suffer from stormy weather just as wheat can, and it can get a bit bruised and damaged on its way to full ripening. I'm sure many of us have experienced stormy times in our relationships. Jesus, who personified love, grew and flourished, and he too was bruised and damaged and hurt, not least by his disciples, but his fruition was in his demonstration to the whole of mankind that love conquers all, even death. Love lives on.

Of course, the horrors of the war in Ukraine make us question so many things. How can it be that people can fight and bomb and kill and destroy? Where is our loving God in all this? Where is Jesus in all this suffering? And yet, the Ukrainians hold on to their faith and cry out to the God of their fathers. I think the answer lies in the tremendous outpouring of love and generosity that has been evident from so many people in so many countries. I am reminded of all the £20 notes given at a recent coffee morning; I am reminded of all the concerts and meetings that have been taking place in our little villages, and I am reminded of all those people who are willing to open their homes to refugees, and all those people willing to help in whatever way they can. That is about love and empathy and sharing in suffering. That's what Jesus taught us in his journey to the cross and that's what he taught us when like the wheat he rose again. I believe that good triumphs over evil. I believe that this war will stop. Along with millions of others across the world I pray every day for peace, but I also believe that we human beings have a choice. We individually and collectively can choose peace. We cannot blame God for our choices. He has given us freewill. We are not robots, but he did give us his son, the perfect human being who showed us and taught us and walked beside us and continues to do so. Why, because the essence of God is love, and if we allow it, so is ours, and that I believe is everlasting.

Jane Knowles

### **CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY 2022**

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

Due to the current covid situation and ongoing health issues within our ministry team, we may be forced to change or cancel services at short notice. Please check our website or speak to the church warden for the latest information. We apologise for any inconvenience and ask for your understanding.

## **CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> (Easter 3)**

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

### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> (Easter 4)**

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

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> (Easter 5)**

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

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> (Easter 6)**

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

### **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> (Easter 7)**

10am	Benefice Holy Communion Service	Potterne
------	---------------------------------	----------

**Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot**

**Please join us at our new informal gathering called Quest every Saturday at 5.30pm at Poulshot Village Hall.**

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

### **From the Registers:**

#### **Baptisms**

Joseph Burrows on 20<sup>th</sup> March at St Peter's, Poulshot.

#### **Weddings**

Olivia Cole and Thomas Sparkes on 9<sup>th</sup> April at Holy Cross, Seend.

#### **Funerals**

Ralph Newman on 7<sup>th</sup> April at Holy Cross, Seend. \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit our website [www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk) for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.



## **BULKINGTON NEWS**

To all Villagers, Families and Friends,  
Please join us at the **Bulkington Platinum Jubilee 'Street Party'** on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
Tables set up will be from 11am and lunch from 12-2pm  
Bring your own picnic, Location Bulkington Recreation Ground



Bulkington will be entering the **Best Kept Village Competition** for the second time—  
following the positivity after the last event.

The initial judging will take place from 14th May to 12th June and we are looking for  
volunteers to help bring out the best in our village. Please email Hannah on  
[theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk](mailto:theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk) if you would like to volunteer.

### **GREAT BULKINGTON RAILWAY (GBR)**

Delighted to report that the GBR fundraising event for the Ukrainian family on Easter  
Monday today raised £640! Grateful thanks to all the engine crews, and the ladies who  
supplied and served our visitors.

I am also pleased to report that our Ukrainian friends have got their visas and will be safe  
with us soon.

Nev Boulton (and Friends) Station Master 01380 828101

### **BULKINGTON VILLAGE LUNCH**

The Bulkington Village Lunch takes place on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May at 12.15 for  
12.30pm at The Well. Contact Phyl Yarde in advance for the menu (828116).

New people are always welcome to join us.

It is a good social event for the entire village and area.



### **THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP**

will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 46B the home of  
Phyl Yarde 828732.

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 April "100 Club" draw at the Village Lunch in The Well and the winners were :-

£30 No. 60 Ian Pendlebery

£25 No. 27 John Scott

£20 No. 47 Liz Futter

£15 No. 46 Debra Tomlinson

£10 No. 11 Janet Rawlings



Congratulations to the winners and thanks to our diners for help in carrying out the draw.

Phyl Yarde

**The Mobile Library** will be visiting the car park of The Well in Bulkington on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 11.05 - 11.30 am. It is good to see that people are supporting it.

---

### **BULKINGTON LADIES GROUP**

You might get this in time to remind you that our meeting this month is on Thursday 28th April in Bulkington Village Hall at 7.30 pm. We will be entertained by "Music & Mirth" who will be singing one of their Old Time Music Hall programmes in costume. Visitors welcome! The more the merrier! Entrance is £3 which includes 2 raffle tickets. There will be the usual bring and share refreshments, and raffle.

Our meeting for May will be a visit to the Lowden Garden Centre starting with lunch in their cafe at 12.30 pm. We will be leaving from Bulkington Village Hall on Thurs 26th May at 12 noon. Please get in touch for any individual transport arrangements. We want everyone to be able to come.

Liz Futter 828485

---

### **SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS**



There are some tickets remaining for the **Annual Lecture** taking place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre, Rusty Lane to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Falklands War. Mark 'Splash' Aston (ex 22 SAS) will be giving a talk about experiences in the Falklands.

If you buy his book in advance (SAS: Sea King Down), bring it along on the night and he will gladly sign it for you. Ticket £10 (to include light bites) from Seend Post & Provisions, Robin Heatley on 01380 828491 or Devizes Books. There will also be a raffle on the night. All welcome. All proceeds to The Royal British Legion

Anita Heatley, Seend Branch RBL/PR

#### **SEEND 100+ CLUB MARCH DRAW**

1	No.156	C Hawkins	£50
2	No.193	B Goodier	£25
3	No.103	C Bowes	£25
4	No.110	A Newman	£15
5	No.9	Mrs Burden	£15



Thanks to everyone at Nosh and Natter, who helped with the draw.

The new 100 Club starts in May. To join contact [avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk) / phone 828544.



### **SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Please see the Events section and the enclosed copy of our newsletter 'Happenings!' for details of events, regular activities, committee news etc.

## **SHUTTLE NEWS**

Unless you live in Bulkington and would be very unlikely to want a bus from Seend to Devizes you should find a copy of our new Thursday time table as an insert in this magazine. All information about the Seend Shuttle including timetables can be found on the Seend Village Website. We had to cancel the Salisbury trip this month as we only had two passengers willing and able to come. We are hoping to go again on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May so why not give yourself a day out. For only £5 return you can be dropped off right in the centre of Salisbury to go sightseeing, shopping or lunching as you please. The bus leaves the Barge car park at 9.30 am and returns from Salisbury at 2.30 pm. When you phone me (01380 828757) to book a place you can tell me where you would like to be picked up from. Hope to see you then.



Anita



## **SEEND WI**

Spring is in full production. The trees and hedgerows have sprung into life and look radiant in vibrant green leaves and wonderful frothy blossom. There was a spring in our step at our April meeting. Nicola Davies, our Speaker, led a craft session on silk screen printed cards. We were able to choose from a variety of stencils, including animals, birds and flowers suitable for all abilities. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all the members and the finished results looked amazing.

Members also voted to support the NFWI Resolution for 2022 “Women and Girls with ASD& ADHD Under-identified, Under-diagnosed, Misdiagnosed, Under-supported”.

We are looking forward to our meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May. The Speaker will be Brian Tilley and Penny who will give a talk and demonstration on “Reeds, strings and drones”.

**Craft and Chatter group** will meet on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May** 2pm to 4pm in the Pavilion. Bring your own craft or just come for tea, cake and chatter. Everyone welcome, you do not have to be a member of the WI. Do come along. **Please note** this will be our last Craft meeting until the Autumn as the Pavilion will be closed for significant refurbishment work over the summer.

If you are not currently a member of WI but are interested in finding out more, do contact us and we shall be pleased to share our future plans with you. Non members are always welcome and can attend one meeting without any obligation to join.

All regular meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend at 7.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise notified. For more information, please contact Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511 or check [www.seendwi.weebly.com](http://www.seendwi.weebly.com).

Joyce Harvey



## **SEEND THEATRE CLUB**

Our next outing is to the Watermill Theatre, Newbury to see their take on Graham Green’s “Our Man in Havana” on Tuesday 10th May. This is an evening performance and is preceded by supper in the restaurant. Visits to the Watermill have always been a great experience and we are looking forward to a good night out.

Looking ahead we go to the Hippodrome in Bristol for a matinee performance of Mamma Mia! on Wednesday 22nd June. The fun story line, with fabulous music by ABBA, makes this a great musical treat.

Early in July will be the annual performance by Wiltshire-based Shakespeare Live at Cleeve House. This year they are to perform "Twelfth Night". Members will have the opportunity to picnic in the grounds before the open-air production begins. Tickets will be available shortly. Our Autumn programme starts with a return to the Watermill on Tuesday 6th September for "Whistle Down the Wind", a musical based on the book by Mary Hayley Bell. Beyond that is "The Mousetrap", by Agatha Christie, at Theatre Royal Bath on 23rd November. The year ends with the ever popular "Messiah" by Handel at Bath Abbey in December.

In other news, we are delighted to announce that Margaret Bromley has joined the Committee. The Committee meets regularly to organise and manage events for the Club. We always welcome new members and if you are interested in finding out more please contact either Ken (01380 828511) or Marion (01380 828612).

Ken Harvey

### **SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS**

**Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>** was a bright and sunny day which saw 14 members meet near the White Horse at Alton Barnes for a six mile circular walk led by Tim and Sandy.

There were a couple of long steady climbs but all worth the effort for the views towards Silbury hill, Kennet Longbarrow and the surrounding countryside. The walk saw us follow the White Horse Way crossing the Wansdyke before passing through the village of East Kennet. The byway was followed back up to cross the Wansdyke again and back down to the carpark. Although I say it myself it was a lovely walk!!



**Next walk will be Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**, leaders will be Lin and Gerald. Members will be notified in the usual way once details are known.

**Future walk dates** : June 19<sup>th</sup> & July 17<sup>th</sup>. New members always made very welcome.

Sandy

### **SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS**

**Panto Archive:** With the exception of just three, I have videos of all of Seend Fawlty Players pantos since 1982 in digital format. I don't think we recorded the first two productions. The missing ones are Sleeping Beauty in 1988, Babes in the Wood in 1991 and Scheherezade in 1993. It would be wonderful if we had a complete archive for generations to come and I'm wondering whether if current and ex-Fawlties were to hunt around in their roofs and under the stairs, copies of the three missing tapes might see daylight once again.

Might you have some? They would be old video tapes but we can convert them. Please think about it. Thank you.

Frank Teasdale (Fawlty Archivist)  
[frankteasdale@gmail.com](mailto:frankteasdale@gmail.com) - 07719 918310

## **SEEND PLAYGROUP**



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April it was a shame it was so windy as we couldn't have our Easter Bonnet Parade outside. The children paraded around the hall with their wonderful creations on their heads. We left the Easter Bonnets inside and went out into the Millennium Garden to find the hidden cardboard eggs. The parents and grandparents enjoyed tea, coffee and hot cross buns afterwards, served by

Liz and the committee. Thank you to all who attended and to Liz and the committee for serving in the kitchen.

We would also like to thank the Seend Fete Fund (2020) for donating £500 to Playgroup. So far we have bought pots, compost, seeds and plants which we have put in the Millennium Garden to water and watch them grow. We have also bought a birdbath to watch the birds drink from and have baths in. We are hoping to buy three balance bikes, Lego sets and some construction sets.

Rose Dick (Playleader), 01380 828003

## **SEEND PARISH COUNCIL**

### **March PC Meeting**

Attendance – Six Councillors: Apologies Terry James, Anita Heatley, William Lack and Councillor Tamara Reay

### **Local Council Matters – Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWHIP)**

Cllr Reay described the aim of LCWHIP which is to identify best walking and cycling routes within the local area. Also involved are the Air Quality and Sustainable Transport Group, Cycle Friendly Dezives and Bishops Cannings Parish Council as they have a significant amount of new development bordering their Parish. It was suggested that Rusty Lane could make a beneficial cycleway linking the village to the Canal and Sustrans Route 4. This was discussed under agenda item 2022/44 – Highways and Rights of Way.

Minutes & Matters Arising: Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February were approved

Police Matters: Whilst there have been no reported crimes this month, the following incidents have been recorded.

Date	Incident/Report
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Broken down tractor outside Cleeve House
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Car collision due to car stopping and being rear shunted by another at Cleeve Grange – No injuries
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Cows on the road at Hill Farm House.

In addition, an unknown person using a torch was spotted at 2am Wednesday March 16th looking around various drives in Seend Cleeve.

The Wiltshire Police and Crime Plan 2022-25 (making Wiltshire Safer) has been published and can be found on the PCC Website ([wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk))

**Community Policing Teams** - Seend comes under the Trowbridge Area, along with Melksham: The Inspector for our Area is Gill Hughes. Her email address is:



[trowbridgeareact@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:trowbridgeareact@wiltshire.police.uk). Our Police Community Support Officer is still Janet Gould. Her contact is: [Janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk).

**Highways Meetings:** Three HIR's have been submitted to CATG.

- The Stocks (Speed limit reduction to 30mph and install double white lines to restrict overtaking close to this junction),
- Bell Crossroads (Additional small-scale safety improvements)
- Redstocks (Horse Crossing Warning Signs).

There will be an update at the next CATG meeting regarding the High-Friction surface at the crossing point between Spout Lane and Inmarsh

**Rights of Way – Rusty Lane:** The Rights of Way Warden advised that WC had not managed to identify a scheme which will generate enough 'Planings' to do the work required. Georgina A'Bear stated that Rusty Lane is a crucial route between the village and canal and the Parish Council has earmarked £4,000 towards the cost. The existing drainage issue also needs to be addressed to ensure a new surface is not subject to water erosion. Cllr Reay agreed to liaise with the Rights of Way team to address both the drainage and resurfacing of the lane.

**Planning Applications:**

Application Ref: PL/2022/01847 - 10 Weavers Cottages, Seend SN12 6NN

Proposal: T1 Apple Tree: Removal of both damaged limbs back to suitable pruning point

**Resolution:** All Councillors in support of this application being approved

Application Ref: PL/2021/11396 (LBC) and PL/2021/11213 - The Bell, Seend

Proposal: Alterations and subdivision to form 3 dwellings - (amendment to scheme approved under ref 20/07243/LBC)

**Resolution:** All Councillors in support of this application being approved

Application Ref: PL/2022/01750 - 56 Sells Green, SN12 6RW

Proposal: Development of rear Garden, 2 x Semi-detached three-bed property and 1 x Detached three-bed property.

**Resolution:** All Councillors voted to oppose this application

**Parish Steward:** The Bradford on Avon Steward visited the village with the new Parish Steward. The following work has been requested for the Parish Steward in April:

- Filling some small pot holes on Bollands Hill
- Cleaning Village Hall signs opposite Rusty Lane
- Approaching Seend from Devizes along A361, the 'Turn Left' sign approaching Inmarsh Lane is partially obscured due to the hedge and needs to be trimmed back

**Sandridge Solar Community Fund - Bicycle Lock ups:** The Lye Trustees agreed a location next to the play area. A location for the Community Centre has proved difficult. The Clerk will review alternative locations with the Centre. Quotes were circulated to the Councillors and a vote approved the purchase of ten stands from a local company.

**Platinum Jubilee**

Queen's Green Canopy Project - An advert was placed in Spotlight to establish what the likely interest would be from parishioners if the PC agreed to purchase trees from The

Woodland Trust, a partner of the Queen's Green Canopy Project, to give to individuals to plant on their land. We expect the next planting opportunity will be in the Autumn.

Beacon Lighting - There will be a beacon lighting and barbecue at the Community Centre on the evening of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The Parish Council agreed to sponsor the entertainment.

WI Picnic - The WI may be planning a bring-your-own picnic on the Lye Field in lieu of 'The Big Lunch' on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

**Finance:** Bank Reconciliation to end of February 2022 - £32,501.97

The Councillors agreed the earmarked reserves will be carried over to the next financial year. Full details are contained in the meeting minutes on the Parish Council Website

**Date of next meetings:** 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 & 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

The Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meetings will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> May

## **NEWS FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **Wiltshire Welcomes Ukrainian refugees**

I'm very pleased that a number of local families are opening up their homes to Ukrainian families, and across the county over 200 households have offered safe homes for people fleeing from the war-torn country. Wiltshire Council is putting in additional staffing to provide checks and support the growing number of Ukrainian refugees who are due to settle in Wiltshire under the government's Homes for Ukraine scheme, including accommodation and welfare and suitability checks. The government has given local authorities a key role in helping refugees settle. The council is putting in place caseworkers and working on payment mechanisms for sponsors and emergency support for new arrivals. Officers are working alongside partners to provide sufficient school places, as well as working closely with the NHS, Department for Work and Pensions and town and parish councils.

The government is issuing visas for Ukrainian refugees. The latest government advice is the checks which local authorities are asked to carry out can wait until the guest has arrived as the Home Office will undertake their own checks prior to arrival to speed up the process. Wiltshire Council will continue to carry out the required checks and the team will be in touch with sponsors to arrange them, but these should not delay the issue of the guests' visas. Schools are working together with the council to continue education for young refugees. There will also be support for early years and post-16 young people. Voluntary groups and charities, are helping to co-ordinate responses and developing ways to ensure when families arrive they have the support they need and feel truly welcome.

At the end of the Easter term more than £11,000 was raised by school children across the county after the Wiltshire Youth Council invited schools to join in a non-uniform day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. The council encouraged pupils to wear blue and yellow for a minimum of £1 to raise funds for the Disasters Emergency Committee's Ukraine Appeal.

Tamara Reay, Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.  
Tel: 07711 824864 Email: [tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk)

---

## **SEEND SPORTING and DRAMATIC NEWS**

### **FOOTBALL:**

Naturally we have to start again with the football, Seend having successfully got through to two cup finals, and, the team already having won their league, the treble is now on the cards.



The first final of the A&B competition is on Tuesday 26th April against Heytesbury at the Westbury FC ground at Meadow Lane BA13 3AF. Kick off is at 7.45pm. That is followed on the 3rd of May, again at the Westbury ground, this time Seend taking on Potterne FC in the KO Cup final with kick off also being at 7.45pm. It is hoped that there will be a strong local contingent of supporters from Seend on both occasions with manager Jake Sainsbury telling me that fans are even flying in from New Zealand for these epic matches.

**TENNIS:** The Chippenham and District summer season is underway with Seend entering a mixed doubles team along with a men's doubles.

The men, now in the safe organisational hands of Liam, in the shape of Liam Bergin, Louis Ball, Mark Newman and Harry Waylen played against Urchfont on the 20th April with the mixture of experience and youth in the shape of Mark and Harry coming away with 2.5 points out of 4 but alas the other pairing never really settled into the match until it was all over. Next up for the men's will be the Bath club Bloomfield.

The mixed team, newly promoted to division 3 after their success last season, have their first match at Trowbridge on the 25th so a full report will be in next month's issue. Frankie will continue to look after the mixed team, his 24th year at the helm.

As always any players keen to play competitive league tennis please contact Liam or Frankie, you will be most welcome.

**RUNNING:** As things very slowly get back on track Wiltshire's longest running race, the Bishop's Cannings 5000m Dash, is now back in the athletics calendar for 2022 after a two year Covid related forced break. Provisionally the date will be either the 2nd or 16th July but we will advise you all as soon as possible with a notice in the village shop. Rest assured that Jerome will not be entering.

**SHORT MAT BOWLS:** Colin tells me that all is well on the famous green baize although he says that he has nothing to report of significance, so no change there then. Hopefully the boys will be there supporting the Seend Beer Festival as part of their mid-season training programme and it will serve as a springboard to their traditional assault on the league table in the second part of the campaign, one traditionally of two halves.

**SKITTLES:** As at mid-April Seend A were sitting 3rd out of 12 teams in the Premier division whilst Seend B were 6th out of the 11 teams in the first division with Seend C no longer competing.

**THE BOARDS:** Stop Press: Henry now being directed by George Clooney!

Sports news and results for the June issue by 13<sup>th</sup> May please.

Frankie Goddard. 07854 660582.

## **NATURE NOTES**

### **Decline of Species**



Spotted any hirundinidae so far this spring? One swallow does not make a summer! Over the course of this century these species have declined dramatically in many of their traditional nesting environments. Please ensure that their sites are protected and respected. Who can recall when they last heard a nightingale singing? Its beautiful song is but a distant memory. When did any village property not have a spotted flycatcher nest in the creeper adorning its walls? Its aerial acrobatics were mesmerising. On one's walks have you heard the skylark and watched its graceful climb into the sky singing so melodiously, and then its spectacular glide back to the ground? Or a tree pipit for that matter. With so many trees being felled traditional songsters such as the mistle and song thrushes, blackbird, robin and others are losing their perches from which to deliver their inspiring songs to brighten our days. Trees are also important roosting sites. Dawn choruses are a thing of the past in some areas. And more of our resident birds become a statistic on the BTO Red List, 67 alone in 2020. With the continuing development of farmland, green spaces and woods for housing and industry one is experiencing the new takeover of our gardens and feeding stations by the corvid family – crows, rooks, jackdaws and magpies. This decline of our bird population is reflected in the various annual birdwatches. One of the only successes is the marauding magpie, which can now be seen quartering hedgerows, copses, gardens etc in their search for nesting birds in order to steal eggs and fledglings for food for their own progeny. Crows, too, are murderous in their slaughter of nesting birds, with the result that some species cannot maintain their numbers, let alone increase them. This decline in our bird population is also reflected in our finest pollinators. The UK has approximately 250 different species of bee. Who has seen a Tawny Mining Bee or a Cuckoo Bumble Bee? Please don't kill wasps, let them be, they do so much good in nature. More about bees in next month's column.

Finally, some children have never heard a cuckoo or can name what it is. This species, too, is a declining migrant to the British Isles. However, you can follow a tagged cuckoo named 'Ellis' on the BTO website: click on BTO Cuckoo Tracking Follow Cuckoos on Migration.

Also, a reminder about the dangers of using slug pellets in your garden, If you look on the web for slug treatments which are not harmful to pets or wildlife, you will find some options which do the trick. One such is Sluggo, which is widely available. Please restrict the use of chemical sprays, e.g. for green and blackfly, which kill so many of the dietary requirements of small birds such as tit species, which eventually could bring about the death of these birds.

Otis Tarda

---

## **BITS AND BOBS**



**NGS GARDENS:** Arrange a personalised visit with your club, or group of friends, on a date to suit you. See individual garden entries for details. 13 Wiltshire gardens are open to the public during May.

[www.ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-by-arrangement](http://www.ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-by-arrangement)



## **LAVINGTON COMMUNITY CHOIR**

We are working towards a concert on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July** at Market Lavington Community Hall. Anyone who fancies a sing every Thursday at the Market Lavington Community Hall, 8 for 8.15pm will be warmly welcomed. Your first session is free, there are no auditions and you don't need to be able to sight read. Find out more from [pboyagis@gmail.com](mailto:pboyagis@gmail.com) [www.lavingtoncommunitychoir.org](http://www.lavingtoncommunitychoir.org)

## **STEEPLE ASHTON FILMS**

**WEST SIDE STORY (12A) 7.30 pm on SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**  
**(doors open at 7pm for refreshments) at the village hall, Steeple Ashton**

If you have tickets for Spencer and wish to exchange them, you may choose from any of the next season's films West Side Story, Death on the Nile (11<sup>th</sup> June) or The Duke (8<sup>th</sup> July).

**Tickets £6 From Steeple Ashton Village Shop. For Reservations, please ring Alison on 01380 871345 . Join our mailing list e-mail [safilms268@gmail.com](mailto:safilms268@gmail.com) or look on Facebook.**

## **Melksham & District Flower Arrangement Society**

have pleasure in inviting you to join us on the third Tuesday of each month at 2.00pm in Seend Community Centre for a Flower Arranging demonstration.

17th May "The Art of Unlocking" with Cath Brown

21st June "Designing for Summer" with Michael Bowyer

Visitors: £5 per visit to include refreshments



## **The Annual Gardeners' Fair**

**Wednesday 11th May 2022 9.00am – 2.00pm in The Shambles, Market Place, Devizes**

Wide range of plants incl: unusual perennials, shrubs, clematis, alpines & vegetable plants

Local growers and from Somerset, Dorset and Hampshire

Donated plants, for charity stall, most welcome

Contact: Jennifer Brisker 01672 851925 [jbrisker1@aol.com](mailto:jbrisker1@aol.com)



**Save the Children**

**Wiltshire Buildings Record**, a charity that has a growing and very detailed database of the county's vernacular buildings – and which is based at Chippenham's History Centre – is seeking new members. For further details please go

to <https://www.wiltshirebuildingsrecord.org.uk/membership/> Organisations such as local history groups are charged £25 per annum, whilst individuals pay £14.

**Please help us identify and study historic buildings throughout the county.**

**Don't forget to look at this month's online colour supplement on [seend.org.uk](http://seend.org.uk)**

**And finally.....**

According to the late, great Frank Muir: "a gentleman is someone who uses a butter knife even when dining alone".



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

**Church:** Revd Ali Bridewell. 01380 739064. Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, 828557. Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513; Bulkington: Mrs Liz Futter 828485, Mike Rose 01249 248516; LPAs: Liz Futter 828485, Rosie Forsey 828843, 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](http://www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html) or 828970

**Bulkington Village Hall** - Nev Boulton 828101 or Roger Futter 828485

**Seend Community Centre** – To contact please e-mail [seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com](mailto:seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com)

**Seend Shuttle: Enquiries:** [seendshuttle@gmail.com](mailto:seendshuttle@gmail.com) or Alison 07951 030491

**Seend Parish Council Clerk** – Mr Chris Stirland [clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Seend's Wiltshire Councillor** – Tamara Reay 07711824864 [tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Seend Village Website:** [www.seend.org.uk](http://www.seend.org.uk) – webmaster Neil Yockney 827139.

**Seend School** – 828334

**Bulkington Website:** [www.bulkington.org.uk](http://www.bulkington.org.uk)

**Rights of Way Warden** – Paul Millard, 01225 712821

**Devizes Area Board** – 01225 718352 Support Officer: [tara.shannon@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:tara.shannon@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Police:** PCSO 6039 Janet GOULD - Mobile 07471029772 – [janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:janet.gould@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

**MP:** Danny Kruger -email:[danny.kruger.mp@parliament.UK](mailto:danny.kruger.mp@parliament.UK) Devizes Office 01380 711425

**100+Club Draw** – Alison Bottomley -

[avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk)

**Book Clubs** - the original: Sylvia Ewin 828325 -

the other: Frank Teasdale 828617

**Cricket Club** – Brian Hunt 828581

**Fawlty Players Panto Group** - Tessa Doe

828617 & Seend Village Pantomime on fb

**Fete** – see Lye Field

**Flower Show** – Julia White 01380 827082

**Football** – Jake Sainsbury

**FoSS** - Nick Collinge-Cubberley,

[friendsofseendschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofseendschool@gmail.com)

**Historic Houses Club** - Mary Warren

01225707357 or Neil Yockney 827139

**LINK Scheme** - 075320 55560

**Lye Field**– [www.seendlyefield.org](http://www.seendlyefield.org)

**Neighbourhood Watch** - Brian Hunt (Seend)

828581; Cavan Moroney (Sells Green) 828606;

Owen Burton (Seend Cleeve) 828820;

[theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk](mailto:theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk)

**Preschool** - Rose Dick (Playleader) 828003

**Poetry Group** - Tessa Doe 828617

**Ramblers** - Sandy James 01380 739235

**Royal British Legion** – Sec:Kevin Toft

[kevin.toft1@sky.com](mailto:kevin.toft1@sky.com) 07597 796326

828491. Welfare: Christine O'Reilly 01380

828888/07791 157060

**Seend Baby & Toddler Group** – Lucy Hajos

07789106272

[SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com](mailto:SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com)

**Seend CLT** – [www.seendclt.org](http://www.seendclt.org)

[info@seendclt.org](mailto:info@seendclt.org)

**Seend Fund** – Anita Shea 828757

**Short Mat Bowls Club** - Colin Waldeck 01225

736092

**Table tennis** – Chris Brooker, 828047

**Tennis Club** – Sarah Pearson - 07980 744420

**Theatre Club** – Ken Harvey 828511;

Marion Whitehead 828612

**WEA/Day Schools** – Tessa Doe 828617

**Wheelchairs to borrow** - Sue and Graham Jones

in Seend Cleeve, tel: 01380 828354

**WI** - Fiona Johnson on 828401 and Joyce Harvey

828511

**Wine Circle** – Steve Parsons 07974 347487 or

Simon McManus 07896 711764



# POST & PROVISIONS

[www.postandprovisions.com](http://www.postandprovisions.com)

01380 828250



- NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES
- FRESH FRUIT, FLOWERS & VEGETABLES including Veg Boxes
- WINES BEERS & SPIRITS
- GROCERIES
- ORDER FRESH SCOTTISH FISH ANY TUESDAY FOR A FRIDAY DELIVERY. CALL 07910 316163 OR JOIN THE WHATSAPP FISH GROUP ON THE SAME NUMBER
- SICK OF COOKING EVERY DAY? ORDER HOME-COOKED PIES, PASTA BAKES, CAKES, PUDDINGS AND MORE
- ORDER LOCAL ORGANIC MEAT A DAY IN ADVANCE
- THE HEALTH LOTTERY
- POSTCARDS & STATIONERY
- COFFEE & HOT SNACKS
- GARDEN PLANTS (If closed, post cash through letterbox or pay by BACS: J P McCormack, 40-19-16; 81508148)



## **Opening hours:**

### **Shop:**

09.00 - 17.00 Monday to Friday  
08.30 - 17.00 Saturday  
09.00 - 10.30 Sunday

### **PO:**

09.00 - 15.30 Monday to Friday  
Closed Saturday and Sunday

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

**Free delivery within Seend area on orders over £20.00**