

SPOTLIGHT

Seend & Bulkington



Happy April Fools' Day

April 2023

DIARY DATES FOR LATE MARCH

- 27th Mobile Library: 9.40am Seend The Lye; 10.05am Seend Cleeve phone box;
11am Bulkington The Well Inn Car Park
- 28th Seend Parish Council Meeting, Seend Community Centre, 7pm
- 29th Nosh & Natter lunch club, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30pm
- 30th Seend School Easter Service, Seend Church, 9.30am
- 30th Hollychocs pop-up shop and tasting in the Brewery Inn, 7pm
- 31st Seend Playgroup Easter Bonnet Parade and coffee morning.

DIARY DATES FOR APRIL *(see inside for Easter Church Services)*

- 5th Seend Shuttle shopping trip to Salisbury
- 5th Bulkington Village Lunch, The Well Inn, 12.15pm
- 9th Easter Egg Hunt, Brewery Inn
- 12th Bulkington Village Hall AGM; 7.00 pm
- 12th Quiz Night, Brewery Inn
- 14th **SECOND** Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30am
- 15th **LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAY SPOTLIGHT**
- 15th Wiltshire Police Band Concert, Seend Community Centre, 7.30 pm
- 16th Seend and District Ramblers, 10am walk
- 16th Ali Bridewell's leaving service and celebration, Potterne Church, 11am
- 16th Seend House and Brow Cottage gardens open in Seend 1-5pm
- 18th Melksham Flower Arrangement 2pm at Seend Community Centre
- 24th Mobile Library: 9.40am Seend The Lye; 10.05am Seend Cleeve phone box;
11am Bulkington The Well Inn Car Park
- 25th Seend Parish Council Meeting, Seend Community Centre, 7pm
- 26th Nosh & Natter lunch club, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30pm
- 26th Quiz Night, Brewery Inn
- 27th Link Annual General Meeting, Irene Usher Hall, 7.30 pm
- 29th Seend Annual Beer Festival

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – CHANGE OF DATE

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on **Tuesday 16th May** (Rather than 9th May) at 7.30pm in the Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion – All Welcome.

SEEND COMMUNITY LINK SCHEME

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

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

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

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

Newcomer to Seend or Bulkington?

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

WELCOME TO APRIL 2023 SPOTLIGHT

We always enjoy looking out for 'April Fool' items in the papers and on TV or radio. Who remembers the spaghetti harvest spoof on the Beeb, or the Sans Serif phoney island described in a special supplement in the Guardian? Will they be equalled this year? Will you be caught out by friends or family?



April also brings the famous Seend Beer Festival (heading for a sell-out already), Easter with its mixture of children's fun and chocolate eggs and, of course, very special church services, plus lots of the usual events and gatherings in our villages.

Please complete and return the questionnaire distributed with this magazine in Seend.

Spotlight Contacts: Contributions for the May 2023 edition (copy by Saturday 15th April) can be emailed to spotlight@seend.org.uk or delivered to Seend Post & Provisions. Editors: Tessa Doe (01380 828617) Sue Isaac (828461) and Jan Field (827140). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to individuals – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401), Jan Field (827140) for printing and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Potential volunteer deliverers or printers can contact Fiona or Jan.

Lost emails: Emails to Spotlight sometimes go astray for no obvious reason. **If email correspondents don't receive an acknowledgement by the end of the Monday after the Spotlight deadline, please ring editors (see above) to check if all is well.** And please note the following. **When sending emails to spotlight@seend.org.uk** please include the word **SPOTLIGHT** in uppercase 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. Thank you.

THE SEEND FUND - A REMINDER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

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

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

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

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

SEEND EVENTS IN APRIL AND BEYOND



SPRING IN SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING (On Second Friday!)

April 14th from 10.30am in the Lounge. Come and enjoy freshly made real coffee or tea (plus a refill) and delicious home-made cakes for just £2:50. Everyone welcome! No need to book.



NOSH & NATTER LUNCHES: The monthly lunch club meets at 12



for 12.30pm on Wednesday 26th April. Please book in advance for all lunch dates by calling Pauline on 01380 828638 (or if no answer 828401). Two courses and refreshments for £7.50— lovely home-made dishes prepared and served by the excellent N+N team!

MEMBERSHIP 2023 Now Due!: Have you renewed your membership? Full Membership is £15, Over 60's £12.50, Under 18's £5. You can sign up online at www.seendcommunitycentre.com or just pop into the CC and pay at the Bar in the Members' Lounge during opening hours. Full details on membership and benefits available online. Many thanks to all who have already paid their Subscriptions.

Members Lounge Opening times:

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays: from 7:00pm until closing

Fridays: from 6:00pm until closing

Sundays: from 12:00 noon until 4:00pm



TGI Fridays: Every Friday from 6 pm. Club members and guests meet in the Members Bar. Come along and find out what's going on in and around the village.



Wiltshire Police Band Concert 15th April 7:30

The Wiltshire Police Band presents an **Evening of Swing Band Music** from Glenn Miller to ELO. The concert will feature Guest Soprano Kristina Takashina. This is a fund raiser for Wiltshire Portage. Tickets are £10 and can be purchased online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wiltshire-police-band>

Community Centre Help Required

The Community Centre is run by a committee of volunteers, and we are looking for people to join the general committee. In addition, the Treasurer is retiring, so if anyone has an accountancy/book-keeping background with a few hours to spare each week we would be very pleased to hear from you. If you would be interested or would like an informal chat to discuss please leave your name with Tom at the CC or contact Jenny Dalton the Acting Chair. Many thanks.

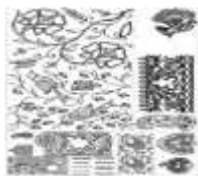
BREWERY INN EVENTS

Thursday 30th March – Hollychocs Pop-up Shop, 7pm

Sunday 9th April – Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesdays 12th and 26th April - Quiz Nights





Seend WI Craft and Chatter Group

Wednesday 19th April 2 - 4 pm.

Come for tea and cake, at The Pavilion.

Everyone welcome, you don't have to be a member of WI.

Contact Joyce Harvey 01380 828511.

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.***

THANK YOU

Carole and the family would like to thank all of those who attended the funeral of Tony Hook on 16th February. Also many thanks for all the cards and flowers we've received and messages of support.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

On 10th March Joan Green, resident of Seend Cleeve, celebrated her 100th birthday. She received a birthday card from HRH King Charles and celebrated with her family and friends. (*There's a photo in the Online Colour Supplement.*)

SEEND OPEN GARDENS 10/11 June 2023 1.00 pm - 6.00pm

This is our major fundraising event for our church and is held biennially, alternating with Seend Cleeve open gardens. Anyone, especially newcomers to the village, is most welcome to open their garden and whether it be small or large it will be greatly appreciated by our visitors. Thank you to those who already take part on a regular basis. It is much appreciated. For further information or if you are intending to open your garden please contact me, Tina Yockney, either by email or on 01380 827139. I look forward to hearing from you.

And..

GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY under the National Gardens Scheme (NGS) on Sunday 16th April 1-5pm. Seend House (next to the church) and Brow Cottage (at the top of Inmarsh Lane), with homemade teas in aid of Seend Church being served at Brow Cottage. Parking on the Lye Field.

SEEND & DISTRICT LINK SCHEME AGM.

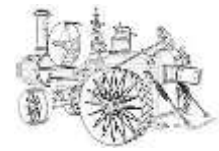
Link is a team of volunteers who assist residents in the area who are elderly or incapacitated and are unable to use public transport.

We are always in need of volunteer drivers and would be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to find out more at our AGM and meet the team. The AGM will be held on the 27th of April in the Irene Usher Hall at 7.30 pm.

www.seend.org.uk/seend_link



**Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion &
Seend Lye Field, Rusty Lane, Seend**
Available for parties, meetings, sports events.
Book online now at: www.seendlyefield.org
Email: seendlrf@gmail.com



**Colonel Nigel Knocker OBE WO WKhM
31 August 1930 – 21 February 2023**

Following a defiant fight against cancer, Nigel died on 21 February at home in Seend with Angela at his side.

Nigel Bedingfield Knocker was born in 1930, the son of an air commodore, formerly an officer in the Indian Army. Educated at Oakham School, in January 1949 he was called up for National Service at age 18 and served with 14/20 Kings Hussars before being commissioned into the Lifeguards. However, as Nigel would recount, the Mess Bills became a challenge and he soon transferred to the infantry, joining the Royal Sussex Regiment on the Suez Canal in 1951. His early career included a tour as an ADC before returning to the Regiment as Adjutant in Korea, Germany and Gibraltar. Subsequent tours included Australia, Northern Ireland and Staff College, but it is his long association with Oman of which he was most proud and will be best remembered. In May 1971, he took command of the Desert Regiment of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF), at the height of the Dhofar War. He received the Sultan of Oman's Distinguished Service Medal for his skill in command on Operation Simba, and was appointed OBE in 1974 on relinquishing his command. Promoted to Colonel, he returned to Oman to become the Defence Attaché from 1977 to 1980, and later served with the SAF Chief of Defence Staff from 1982 to 1985.

After retirement, Nigel and Angela moved to Seend in 1986 and he became a member and, subsequently, a distinguished Chairman and then President of our British Legion Branch. He became the County Emergency Planning Officer of Wiltshire County Council and was also Chairman of the International Churchill Society from 1997 to 2008. Retaining his connections with Oman until his death, he was Chairman of the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces Association from 1997 and Vice-Chairman and later Acting Chairman of the Anglo-Omani Society. His profound contribution to UK-Oman relations was recognised with the awarded the Order of Oman in 2018.

Nigel's first marriage to Catriona Mcleod in 1958 was blessed with two children, Jonathan and Fiona. Catriona died in 1979 and, in 1981, he married Angela Willoughby. Our thoughts and prayers are with Angela and the family.

ARBORETUM PLANS

People might have noticed some recent activity in our field in Seend Cleeve down the hill between Ferrum House, the Barge, and Perry's Lane houses, and they may be interested to hear about the arboretum we are starting to plant there. This has been a dream of mine for many years as I'm a bit of a tree nerd really.

We are all now being encouraged to plant trees for so very many good environmental reasons. To combat the very serious business of climate change, to absorb and lock in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, help with flood runoff, promote biodiversity and

provide wildlife habitats, provide amenity value, and because they are lovely! This is my personal contribution to carbon offsetting and saving the planet.

To start with what is not happening - I am not planning a dense plantation of conifers, nor a dense wood for a timber crop, nor am I intending to block the views of my neighbours. I am not getting a grant for this, the field now is low input grass cut for hay. It will not be all natives as climate change should encourage us to find other trees more suitable for our coming hotter summers. Snowdrops and daffodils will be there too. Perhaps one day it may be open to visitors.

There will be some smaller “nurse” trees planted around the edges to provide a suitable woodland environment, with a grassy track round the outside. More special trees will be planted, with glades between and a clearing in the middle cut for hay. Those with good autumn colour or spring blossom will feature strongly. It will take years to look good and our children’s generation will be the ones to see it as I imagine it to be. As they say the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago, and the second best time is now.

Lucy Garton

IMPORTANT - THE SEEND COMMUNITY

Back in 2021 Seend reached a watershed moment as a community. The 2021 National Census shows we truly are becoming a retirement parish. In common with much of rural England, the age profile of our community is weighted north of age 50 years. 55.2% of our population is aged over 50, more than the English national average. As we might expect, our local population numbers are well below the English national average for younger people in the age ranges 0 to 50 years.

Whilst our local population age profile may have shifted nearer the graveyard, the total number of our population has hardly changed across many decades. 320 of us live in Seend Cleeve and 780 elsewhere in the parish. Together we are the 1100 of the Parish of Seend where 42% of our working population is working from home. Interestingly, these facts present us with an opportunity to think about this local dilemma.

Why do we have so much difficulty in finding people to voluntarily help operate our excellent, yet seemingly undervalued, Community Centre and Seend Lye Recreation Field facilities? The 2021 National Census shows us that in our Parish we have a pool of more than 350 people aged between 55 years and 74 years who could be helping by giving back to the community through a few volunteer hours spent running our core community facilities. **Where are you all?**

Some of you may recall that towards the end of the last millennium we almost lost the wonderful facility that was to become the Seend Community Centre. If Seend people will not step up to share the administrative load of **The Few** remaining volunteers, we will certainly be revisiting those troubled times. The further certainty is, as we all grow older, we are going to continue to need our community buildings.

We have some very able and faithful community-minded organisers who do very well in organising and providing for local interest groups and community needs, such as (naming just a few) Nosh and Natter, First Friday Coffee Mornings, Seend Playgroup, Seend Beer Festival, Seend Fete and Flower Show, and a whole range of entertainment and cultural events. These groups, many local and some from other Wiltshire areas, depend upon the availability of value-for-money good quality safe venues like ours.

Without caring people to administer and run our facilities these events will have nowhere to happen in Seend. Despite numerous published appeals to you for support for our core facilities, which are our whole community's assets, the community response has been minimal and quite disheartening for **The Few** remaining. **The Few** who can quite clearly see the writing on the wall. We all wish it was a Banksy!

If we want to keep our core community facilities, which we all have a stake in, they must be well-run and cared for. To keep our facilities operational and in good repair **The Few** in our community need to raise more than £70,000 per year to break even – and they do so. Your **Community Centre** has vacancies for a Chairperson and will shortly have a vacancy for a Treasurer. The management committee needs people to care for the building and grounds and to share the administrative load. Your **Seend Lye Recreation Field** has a strong management committee, but it needs hands-on volunteering people to fill the following vacancies. Secretary vacancy from the AGM on 11th May. There are current vacancies for a Treasurer, a Vice Chair, a House Member and a Field Member. If you want to know what these roles involve go to this web page: <https://www.seendlyefield.org/volunteer-roles.html>. Come along to the AGM on 11th May or talk to one of Last of the Summer Wine crew at the Pavilion on most Friday mornings from 10:00 am – coffee included.

At the last Lye Field AGM there was just one person from Seend in attendance - other than the committee. That person had a lonely choice of 20 seats on that evening. This appeal is not about repeating the often heard 'use it or lose it' slogan. It is more about the continuation of caring for ourselves, our unique community, and our future.

The Few

(Newer members of the community may not realise that the Community Centre and the Lye Field/Pavilion only exist in the first place because of volunteer builders (largely skittle team members) and volunteer fundraisers ('Fowler' Jack Holloway's massive steam engine rallies) respectively. Would either happen today? Eds)

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL NOTICES

An Apology

Oh dear – In the Previous notes for the March addition of Spotlight I've got Row Barns PL/2022/09193 mixed up with Wych Elm PL/2022/09103 due to similarity of their application numbers. The published Parish Council minutes are correct however I apologise for any confusion caused as a result of the incorrect entry in last month's edition.

Parish Clerk

Parish Council Vacancies

Seend Needs You!

Would you like to be involved in the decision-making in your village?

The Parish Council has two Parish Councillor vacancies.

If you're interested and would like to find out more, speak to one of our friendly Councillors or contact the Clerk. No experience necessary.

Support and training are available. www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk

Wiltshire Council have been in contact regarding an update to the **Government Energy Support Schemes -The Energy Bills Support Scheme and Alternative Fuel Schemes**. Information about the two schemes can be found at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6279/Overview> which includes some FAQs. If you want more information or clarification, please don't hesitate to contact Ian Brown, Head of Revenues & Benefits Central, at ianpbrown@wiltshire.gov.uk

CHURCH NEWS



Pastoral letter for parish magazines April 2023

We all have our unique goodbyes - times of parting after we have lost someone or something that gave our lives meaning and value.

This month we will celebrate Easter when Jesus prepared his disciples for his death. The way that Jesus says farewell to the disciples helps them take hold of their new life and new relationship with him. It helps them to adapt to the change that this will make to their lives. The fellowship they had shared with him would be no more, so he offers them comfort. There will be no more intimate conversation with Jesus as they wrestle with understanding him and his mission. Now it is their opportunity to work out their own salvation and to discover that God is at work in them. He takes the time to say goodbye so that they may be Easter people with the hope of resurrection and eternal life that he has prepared for them.

After his death and resurrection on the road to Emmaus, two people felt their hearts to be strangely warmed in an hour of empty coldness. Then at a table they met their risen Lord. There they said goodbye to one dream, but began to embrace the possibility of a more profound reality. Aware of resources that, in anguish, they had forgotten, they start to claim the resurrection first his, then theirs. They then began a task that changed this world. A task that has been handed over to us to continue.

Saying hello and goodbye is an integral part of human existence, the necessity of change in order to have growth, and the need to let go before one can truly move on. As a follower of Christ I have discovered that hello always follows goodbye in some form if we allow it. There is, or can be, new life, change is inevitable, although it will be different from the life we knew before. The resurrection of Jesus and the promise of God are too strong to have it be any other way.

This month it is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I am saying goodbye to my role as Rector of the Wellsprings Benefice. I'm not good at saying goodbyes especially when it's not something I want to do. This is a role that I felt called to, that I have loved, and is not something that I thought would come to an end after 5 years of being here. But sometimes we are asked to lay things down and that God knows what is best for us to flourish.

Since my cancer diagnosis two years ago and because of my ongoing condition and treatment, I can no longer serve in the way I would want to, so have taken early retirement on grounds of ill-health.

Thankfully there will be an opportunity for saying goodbye. My last service will be at St Mary's Potterne on Sunday 16th April at 11am. I would love to see you there. Please come and celebrate as we give thanks for those we have lived, worshipped and shared life with here for these past 5 years – the many people, places and communities whose fellowship has enriched, encouraged and taught us so much. If you are unable to make it and we don't get to see you before we leave, we send our love and sincere thanks for everything.

Rev Ali and Stu Bridewell

The Churchwardens of the parishes of Seend, Bulkington, Poulshot, Potterne and Worton & Marston in the Devizes Deanery

invite you to the celebration and leaving service of

**The Reverend Alison Bridewell within the Wellsprings Benefice
by the Bishop of Ramsbury, The Rt Reverend Andrew Rumsey on Sunday
16th April 2023 at 11am in the parish church of St Mary's, Potterne, SN10 5NF**

During this service we will celebrate and give thanks for all we have shared together as Rev Ali prepares to leave the Benefice. Please continue to pray for Ali as she lays down her ministry in this place to begin a new stage of life and discipleship in Salisbury. Rev Ali says:

"Please come and celebrate as we give thanks for those we have lived, worshipped and shared life with here for these past five years – the many people, places and communities whose fellowship has enriched, encouraged and taught us so much."

Parking will be available in the Old School playground. Refreshments will be served in the church after the service. RSVP by 9th April to Benefice Administrator on 07516 224057 or email: contact.wellsprings@gmail.com

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

CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL 2023

Sunday 2nd (Palm Sunday)

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

Mon 3rd

7:30pm	Compline and Ignatian Prayer	Potterne
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Tues 4th

7:30pm	Compline and Ignatian Prayer	Worton
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Weds 5th

7:30pm	Compline and Ignatian Prayer	Bulkington
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Thurs 6th (Maundy Thursday)

7:30pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Poulshot
(preceded by "Last Supper" at 6:30pm and followed by a vigil)		



Fri 7th	(Good Friday)	
10am	Messy Easter Workshop	Seend
2pm	Hour at the Cross	Seend
Saturday 8th	(Easter Eve)	
8pm	Service of Light	Potterne
Sunday 9th	(Easter Sunday)	
9:30am	Holy Communion	Bulkington
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
Sunday 16th	(Easter 2)	
10am	Celebration and Leaving Service of Rev Ali Bridewell (followed by refreshments in church)	Potterne
6pm	Holy Communion	Bulkington
Friday 21st		
3:30pm	Messy Church	Potterne Village Hall
Sunday 23rd	(Easter 3)	
9:30am	Family Service	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
6pm	Evensong	Poulshot
6pm	Evening Service	Bulkington
Wednesday 26th		
5pm	Celtic Meditative Service	Poulshot
Sunday 30th	(Easter 4)	
8am	Holy Communion	Seend
10am	Benefice Service (preceded by breakfast at 9am)	Worton



Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

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

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

From the Registers:

Funerals

Shirley Tamplin on 8th February at St Peter's, Poulshot.

Anthony Hook on 16th February at Holy Cross, Seend.

Nigel Knocker on 14th March at Holy Cross, Seend.

No baptisms or weddings this month.

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



Easter Workshop & Easter Egg Hunt

Crafts – Worship - Refreshments
Good Friday 7th April 10.00 till 12.00
Holy Cross Church, Seend SN12 6NX



Parking near church or over the road at Community Centre in Rusty Lane
Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult



BULKINGTON NEWS

Monthly Parish Meeting – Abridged Draft Minutes **PENDING OFFICIAL APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING**



Held Wednesday the 22nd of February 2023 at 7.30pm in Bulkington Village Hall.

Councillors: Amy Powell (Chair), Alison Howard-Evans, Julie Anderson-Hill
and Alex Breach

Agenda Item

1 Apologies for absence: Andrew Grabham and Carla Haslam

3 To Receive a report from Tamara Reay: Wiltshire's Council's budget was formally approved at a meeting of Full Council last night – the balance budget includes Wiltshire Council Tax going up by 4.99% due to inflation. One of the results of the budget changes is that the election costs are being passed back to parishes, local parish council elections, whether contested or uncontested, will be funded by each parish. The next general election will be on the first Thursday in May 2025 and the payment window for the election costs will be two years. A further result of last night's budget meeting is that the cost of Green Bins will be going up.

- Julie praised dog warden Sebastian Williams work and presence in the Bulkington area and asked Tamara to pass this on within the council.
- £200 alternative fuel money funding should have been received by all by now.
- Tamara suggested a Spring time Litter Pick and volunteered to attend should Bulkington hold a litter picking event.

Councillors asked what the plans were for the traveller site by the sewerage site in Keevil – it has been noted that the development has gone from a small shed to a more substantial building with gate posts.

4 Local Police Report: Following a series of break ins, our local police team have updated us that a total of 25 offences since the beginning of December have been linked and span Devizes, Chippenham and Warminster CPT Areas. Leads are being followed and evidence including CCTV is being used to investigate the case.

5 Open Forum: The Parish Clerk has received messages from villager requesting a bike rack by the village bus stop. Councillors have agreed to proceed with the installation and purchase. Clerk to purchase 2 x Sheffield Bike Racks for £40-£50

(providing they have something at the base of the hoops to prevent theft and removal). Alex agreed to help cement the bike racks in, to keep costs to a minimum. After some discussion around the location for the bike racks, councillors agreed that next to the bush shelter, near the village noticeboard, would be best as it is visible for the safety of the bikes but out of the way of bus users and passers-by.

A request for the correction of rank of one of the officers mentioned on the war memorial has been received. Councillors discussed the matter at length and concluded that proof of the rank of the soldier will be needed and that funding will need to be obtained as the cost of the work is not covered in the Parish Council budget.

8 Finance: The following costs were approved:

Clerk January	£325
Clerk expenses – (Heater costs for Dec, Jan and Feb meetings)	£20

Current PC Funds balance: £ 9,633.35

10 Recreational Ground: Amy and Carla have been working hard on the Rec Committee – putting together a bid for some Area Board Funding Send similar funds to Wiltshire community fund? National lottery? Amy to talk to Jonathan quote approved to give go ahead of bridge repair, instruct oak bloke for putting in self-bonded path, site for the pergola where the current trim trail is with seating in. Area Board funding being worked to create a path leading into the rec ground with the aim of getting it done for the coronation.

11 Parish Steward: Winter repairs have been the priority recently. Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visit. Our Clerk has some Dog fouling stickers from the Wiltshire Council Dog warden. If you know of anywhere that needs one, please do let Hannah know.

12 LHFIG requests: Hannah gave an update on the 3 Village requests for dropped curbs and white road markings up for discussion at the next LHFIG meeting on the 17 January 2023. The confirmation that the Parish Council would like to proceed has been sent to the LHFIG Group and is being chased by Hannah.

13 Ticketed Summer party: The Coronation of HM King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6th May, with Monday 8th being declared a holiday. Councillors discussed initial planning of a village party around that time but are lacking volunteers to assist with the organisation. It was agreed to repeat the style of event from last summer for the Queens Jubilee on the Rec Field with bring your own picnics and team games like tug of war, rounders, three legged race and so on, on the 13th of May.

14 Best Kept Village Competition: The next year of this competition is coming up,– All Councillors agreed that Bulkington should enter again, Hannah to fill in paperwork and submit before the entry deadline of 21st April. Judging for the first (District) round will take place from 15th May to 13th June.

15 Recruitment: We are currently recruiting for one Councillor to join the team, if you would like to put yourself forward, please email our Clerk, Hannah.

NEXT MEETING: 15TH March 2023 at 7.30 pm

The Bulkington Village Lunch

takes place on Wednesday, 5th April at 12.15 for 12.30 at The Well.

Please contact Phyl Yarde in advance for the menu (828116).

New people are always welcome to join us.

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



The **Mobile Library** will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on Monday 24th April March 11.05-11.30 am.



THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP

Will meet from 2—4pm on Monday 17th April at

The Old Stables the home of Andie Elliott 828277.

New people always welcome.

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



BULKINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting of Bulkington Village Hall Committee will be held on Wednesday, 12th April 2023 in the Village Hall starting at 7.p.m. This is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

BULKINGTON 100 Club

We held the "100 Club" draw on Monday, the 13th March, and the winners were

£30	No. 10	Tim Taylor
£25	No.19	George Morton
£20	No. 17	Gavin Yarde
£15	No. 26	Ruth Elliott
£10	No. 28	Eileen Masters



Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the ladies of the Tea, Craft and Chat Group for their help with the draw.

Phyl Yarde

BULKINGTON LADIES GROUP

Our meeting this month will be on Thursday 27th April in Bulkington Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The couple who run the vinyl record shop in Devizes will be coming to give us a presentation of music from yesteryear. This should be a very interesting and enjoyable evening. Please feel free to come along. Entrance is £3 which includes two raffle tickets. There will be the usual bring and share refreshments, and raffle.

Liz Futter 828485

TABLE TENNIS

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that Bulkington Village Hall has a table tennis table. The hall can be hired to play table tennis for £5 per hour. Please call 828485. There are bats and balls available to borrow.

SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS



SEEND WI

Seend WI is going from strength to strength! We held our AGM on Wednesday 15th March and welcomed four new members, but we are always looking for more lovely ladies to join us.

We have had a very busy year since last April with many fascinating speakers. In April Nicola Jones gave us a demonstration on how to make silk screen printed cards, we were then able to make one of our own. The finished cards looked amazing! Then in May we had a Musical Evening with Brian Tilley entitled Reeds, strings, and drones. In June we visited West Lavington Manor and Gardens. We had a lovely afternoon strolling through the beautiful gardens and enjoying a picnic tea.

In July we met in the Church, Barbara Cropp gave a talk about pottery, clay, and its uses. And in August we met for a Picnic on the Lyefield. We opened the September meeting to the village as it was a talk given by Steve Colwill on The Bustards on Salisbury Plain. It was a fascinating talk and enjoyed by everyone. We held our Annual Quiz in October hosted as always by Chris Downham. The committee worked hard to make this an enjoyable evening. In November Petra Schruff told us about A German Christmas and showed us some of the decorations that she had made. We held an enjoyable Christmas Social in December with wine and nibbles and a Christmas Snowman Drive. In January Hazel Powell gave us an introduction to the basics of reflexology, it was a very relaxing evening. We had A Gala Night at the Opera in February with Dr Francis Burroughs telling us about the History of Juvenile Drama and then showing us a performance of The Pirates of Penzance using his amazing theatre.

My thanks to all the hardworking committee who make the WI what it is today in Seend.

Our Speaker in April is Stuart Flitton, who is speaking on: Journalism...my part in its survival.

Fiona Johnson, President

SEEND 100 + CLUB MARCH DRAW

1	No. 25	L Bergin	£50
2	No. 82	J Hopkins	£25
3	No. 71	S De Blonde	£25
4	No. 78	S Pearson	£15
5	No. 77	S Vaux	£15



Thanks to the members of The WI who helped with the Draw.

Alison Bottomley



SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Sunday 19th February – 15 members walked from Springfield car park in Corsham and followed the ‘Corsham red heritage trail’ on a circular walk around the outskirts of Corsham. The walk was relatively flat and had no stiles to negotiate and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you to Colin, Denny, Wendy & Reg for leading the walk.

Sunday 12th March – 15 members met at Sleight Valley Golf Range Café, Nr Devizes for a 5.5mile circular walk which followed tracks and lanes skirting around Drews Pond wood, one tree hill and on to Stert village. Once through the village they headed back to the café at Sleight and some members enjoyed a very nice cuppa and light lunch. Thanks to Sandy and Tim for leading the walk.

Next walks – **Sunday 16th April** 10am, walk leaders will be Bob and Brenda, details will be sent out nearer the time in the usual way.

Sunday 14th May 10am, walk leaders Colin and Jo.

Sandy

SEEND THEATRE CLUB

The coach outing to the Bristol Hippodrome in March to see Matthew Bourne’s “Sleeping Beauty” was considered to be a great success. The production was on national tour after a successful run at Sadlers’ Wells Theatre in London. The choreography was amazing with a modernised story line and backed by the wonderful music of Tchaikovsky. The clever puppetry antics of the “baby” caused great amusement and added to the overall enjoyment of the ballet.



A further trip to the Hippodrome was organised in March to see “The King & I”. This was a revival of the famous Rodgers and Hammerstein musical with more than 50 performers and starred Helen George (Call the Midwife) in the lead role of Anna. Our trip in April is to Salisbury Playhouse for an evening performance of “Brief Encounter”. Based on the classic story of a chance encounter in a train station tearoom, this adaptation has live music, comedy and spectacle to enhance the entire performance.

Please note that the rescheduled date for the AGM and social evening will be Tuesday 9th May at 7.30 pm in the Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion. Further details will be published in the May edition of Spotlight.

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 FAWLTY PLAYERS

As many of you will have seen on facebook, the Players were delighted to announce that we were able to donate £500 each to Melksham Food Bank and Devizes

Opendoors from panto proceeds. And that was all down to you lovely people buying your tickets and coming along. Oh yes it was! Thank you. (Put 15th-17th February 2024 in your diaries now!)

SHUTTLE NEWS

Our electric step finally gave up the ghost a few weeks back so apologies to all those who have struggled getting on and off the bus and also to the drivers who have helped them. The new step has arrived from the coach builders and, fingers crossed, should be fitted by the time you read this.



There were so few wanting to go to Salisbury in February we cancelled the trip. Hopefully with better weather more of you will wish to come on April the 5th. Phone me on 01380 828757 if you do. Thanks. Anita

HISTORIC HOUSES CLUB, AGM 2023

This was held on Tuesday February 21st in the Irene Usher Hall. 36 members attended. The committee was re-elected. As well as recapping on much enjoyed 2022 visits, we outlined our proposed visits for this summer: An afternoon at Ditchley Park, following lunch at Lechlade Garden centre (with time to browse and shop?); excursions to Westwood Manor and Cirencester Park and another venue to be decided upon. New members are always welcome. For further information regarding joining our club please contact: Mary Warren 01380828076 or Len Murray 828513.



Sadly, our previous President and past Chairman (for 18 years), Col (Retd) Nigel Knocker OBE passed away peacefully at home on 21 February. His Thanksgiving Service, which was very well attended, was held at Seend Church on Tuesday 14 March.

Kevin Toft, our Seend and County Standard Bearer, came second in the Regional Standard Bearers competition held in Ferndown on Saturday 18 February. Kevin, as at time of print, has raised £300 for his "2100 squats in February". Seend RBL raised £162 at the raffle on the opening night of the Seend panto. A fundraising quiz was held in The Waterfront Bar and Bistro at Pewsey and £200 was donated to the Poppy Appeal, Seend Branch.

Our annual lecture will take place on Saturday 14 October at 7.30pm - further information nearer the time.

Date of next meeting is Thursday 13 April at 7.30pm in the Kennet Room, Community Centre.

SEEND PLAYGROUP

We have welcomed Freddie, Isla and Rubie in Term 4 and hope they enjoy their time with us.



The children cut up green fruits for green week and made a fruit salad. Some of the children were excited to take it home so they could eat it. We have enjoyed looking for colours in the environment and have been able to do some running around on the field. This week (13th-17th) the children have made cards for their Mums, and have tried to hide them in their bags.

We wish everyone a Happy Easter and hope everyone enjoys the two-week break. We will be back on Monday 17th April.

Rose Dick (Playleader) 01380 828003



SEEND SCHOOL - Another busy month at Seend School.

Sycamore class went on a trip to Linkenholt Adventure Centre where they spent the day learning about the Vikings and getting into character! A great day was had by all and Sycamore class represented Seend School brilliantly.

We also held our first Lent Reflections. It was a great success. It was led by the children and they did a fantastic job. It was great to see so many parents join us.

Our Easter Service this year will be held on Thursday the 30th March at 9:30am at the Holy Cross Church in Seend. The children are busy preparing here in school along with our student leaders. We hope to see lots of you there.

We have also had great fun participating in World Book Day. The children have participated in a variety of activities talking about their favourite books, characters and joining in with a Big Bookie Break time

We are really pleased to say that we have been mentioned in the Bath and Wiltshire Parent Magazine this month because of our 'Good' Ofsted Rating! "Seend Primary School in Wiltshire has retained its Good rating following a visit from Ofsted. In the report, the school, which serves 102 pupils aged 4-11, is praised for fostering a friendly and welcoming learning environment, stating, 'Pupils are polite, courteous and well mannered. There is a calm and orderly atmosphere in school and on the playground. Pupils enjoy school, feel safe and attend regularly.' Staff at the school are also praised for their high standards for pupils, with inspectors writing, 'Leaders are ambitious for what pupils can achieve.'

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

Local pupils (among whom are a number from Bulkington) attending Keevil Academy School continue to get busy in the community. For the second year running, each child in Spring Class planted their own tree, which counts towards the Queen's Green Canopy Scheme marking the Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II. The scheme hopes to create a network of trees across the UK and a green legacy in honour of the late Queen.

The school is taking part in the Green Tree Schools Award, achieving Gold level, which encourages the children to take part in environmental projects. The children have created a book-swap library, become a recycling point for used pens and printer cartridges (raising funds for Wiltshire Air Ambulance), and created bird houses from recycled materials, which were distributed to local residents. Some of the children have been voluntarily collecting litter in their spare time from around the Bulkington and Seend footpaths. (*Tree planting and litter picking photos in online colour supplement.*)

If you are involved in any local sustainability projects that would be suitable for pupil involvement, Keevil Academy School would love to hear from you.

SEEND TENNIS CLUB - NEW SEASON

We are delighted to say that our new season has started for Seend Tennis Club and we are ready to play tennis! We have had a few changes in the committee - with our chair, Sarah Pearson, and Treasurer, Cathy Kavanagh, both recently stepping down due to other commitments.

The new Tennis Club committee is:

Sally Jackson (Chair and LTA Rep) ; Philippa Jackson (Treasurer) ; Julia Close (Membership Secretary) ; Frankie Goddard (Welfare Officer and Mixed League Team Captain) ; Sally-Anne Shipp (Marketing & Communications); Giles Collins & Mark Pearson (Facilities) ; Liam Bergin (League Team Rep and Men's League Captain); Fiona Stanford (Social Secretary)

For all general enquiries, please email seendtennisclub@gmail.com and for membership queries, please contact: memberstclub@gmail.com.

Help still needed: However, we are still looking for a new Fundraising Secretary and a new Coaching Co-ordinator, so if you fancy joining a fun committee and keeping a precious village resource not just alive but thriving, please do get in touch!

Membership : We welcome both renewing members and new members. The new season runs from 1st April 2023 until 31st March 2024. Full payment is required upon joining/renewing. You must be a member to book the courts (which you do through the website). Contact membershipstclub@gmail.com for any specific queries. We will be locking the courts to protect them and to ensure that only members and their guests can use them. All members will be issued the code before the lock is installed. We need to raise money this year in order to pay for the courts to be re-surfaced in 2024/25, so membership fees are especially important this year. This year's fees are: £40 for adults, £75 for families and £10 for children or students

League teams: Frankie Goddard (07854 660582) & Liam Bergin (07738 269739) still look after the League Teams so if anyone is interested please contact them directly.

Social games: Our very successful social weekly club will be on a Thursday night from now on (currently between 3.00 - 4.30pm, due to the light). Please contact Fiona on 07749 716662 and she will add you to the WhatsApp group.

Coaching: We are still hoping to arrange coaching using LTA qualified coaches over the summer. Keep an eye on our website or follow our Facebook page for info.

Finally, we would all really like to thank Sarah and Cathy for their enthusiasm and hard work over the last couple of years helping to run the club.

We look forward to seeing more of you back on the courts soon and to a successful season!

SEEND SPORTING NEWS

TENNIS:

A new exciting committee is now in place (see item above). The next tennis Club meeting will be on 26th April. Coaching for children will be a big thing this year. Chippenham and District League matches, men's and mixed, start on the 17th April.



RUNNING:

The Bishops Cannings 5000 metre Dash takes place on the 24th June this year. Medals for all. A classic not to be missed. The present cup holder is Seend's Owen Lythel. Get training !

FOOTBALL:

With just three more matches to go, Seend United, under manager Andy Dyer, are closing in on the runners up place in the First Division of the Trowbridge and District league. Many thanks from Andy and the team to all the volunteers who have tirelessly rolled and cut the pitch so as to ensure home matches have gone ahead.

SHORT MAT BOWLS:

Colin and the boys greeted the Chancellor's raising of the pension cap annual allowance to 60K with loud cheers earlier this month. Only time will tell if this is matched by a similar increase in the squad's performance. Keep going Colin.

CRICKET:

We are looking forward to the match on 9th July against a visiting team from Northampton. The tea menu is already well planned, next will be the team. All who are keen please contact me.

CYCLING:

Ric has, quietly but wisely, purchased a new electric bike as he felt he was a bit short in the peloton of late. Good idea Ric and OK I won't tell anyone.

THE BOARDS:

Henry's agent, his mum, will be giving me a full update for next month's Spotlight.

This month we have had to limit our report but a bumper issue in May, which I know will mean some heavy editing in the less secular departments, c'est la vie! All news to the Wisden tent by the 16th April please.

Frankie Goddard, 07854 660582

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

February PC Meeting: Attendance - six Councillors

Local Council Matters:

Cllr Reay provided the following updates on local matters:

Wiltshire Council Budget: Wiltshire Council's budget for 2023-24 has been approved by Full Council. Budget increases have been kept to a minimum through cost savings rather than using existing reserves.

Blue Bin Recycling: Cllr Reay explained the problems caused through placing 'thin-film' plastics in this bin that result in significantly increased processing costs for the Council. Items such as cling film, plastic bags and the film used to seal ready meals are a particular problem along with disposable nappies. These items need to be placed in your black bin. Over the next few weeks, collection teams will be placing amber tags on bins that contain inappropriate items such as:

- Black plastic - plastics are sorted using laser technology that can identify different plastic types. Black plastics are difficult for the equipment to detect so these cannot be separated for recycling from other materials managed at the facility, so are rejected.
- Cardboard contaminated with foodstuff e.g. pizza boxes
- Film lids from pots, tubs trays and cling film

- Plastic bags, e.g., carrier bags, sandwich bags, freezer bags, bin liners, Crisp/sweet packets
- Pet food pouches, disposable drinks cups and plastic straws
- Compostable plastics (including cups, trays, films, and cartons)
- Plastic packaging and polystyrene, plant pots
- Rigid plastic e.g. toys, garden furniture
- Boxes with plastic windows, please remove the window first
- Foil-lined cardboard tubes e.g. Pringles tubes
- Scrap metal, dirty cans or tins - please rinse all recyclables first
- Clinical / metal products and batteries
- Books, Textiles, Shredded paper, Plastic tubes & Coffee pods

Antisocial Behaviour: Unfortunately, this has become persistent in Devizes town centre. The disturbance is being caused by a small group of individuals. Agencies including the Police are engaged to establish the cause and find a solution.

School Travel Plan: Cllr Reay reported there has been no further engagement with the school.

Matters Arising

Damaged Stile in Row Lane: The Landowner has agreed to repair the stile.

Defibrillator Support: Two Councillors agreed to take on the weekly checks of the Defibrillator at the Brewery.

Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)

Although some correspondence has been received from LHFIG regarding the minutes posted following the LHFIG meeting on 17th January 2023, the Clerk will contact LHFIG to see if a meeting can be arranged to agree a way forward.

Rusty Lane: LHFIG has invoiced the Parish Council for the resurfacing of Rusty Lane.

Bradley Lane: A report from Wiltshire Council is outstanding. Tamera Reay to follow up with the Rights of Way Team.

Broad Lane: Tamera Reay & the Clerk to follow up with the Rights of Way Team.

Seend Cleeve Sewage Spill: Wessex Water agreed to share the results of their investigation with the Parish Council.

Speedwatch: Two volunteers have completed the necessary training. However, to operate the Speedwatch campaign, five trained volunteers are required.

The next LHFIG meeting is scheduled for 18th April 2023. The Chairman and Clerk to attend.

Councillor Co-option

The Chairman introduced Mr Jamie Halliday who had expressed an interest in becoming a Councillor. He was questioned about his experience, skills and interests in the village. Councillors agreed that Jamie should join the Council.

The Parish Council has a complement of nine Councillors and two vacancies.

Planning Applications

PL/2022/09068 - Land adjacent Woodpeckers, Berhills Lane - Erection of two dwellings (resubmission of PL/2021/11736). Councillor Tamara Reay attended the Eastern Area Planning Committee in Devizes and advised the application has now been approved.

Sandridge Solar Community Benefit Payment

The possibility of installing a cycle rack adjacent to the East Bound Bus Shelter at Sells Green was discussed.

Devizes Area Board

The next Area Board meeting is scheduled for 6th March at the Devizes Bowls Club. Pamela Akerman agreed to attend. The meeting will include a workshop on sustainable transport including updates on the Devizes Gateway rail station, the Local Cycling and Walking Plan, electric car charging and plans for enhanced bus services.

Items of Correspondence

Best Kept Village Competition: CPRE have forwarded the Entry Forms

Police Report

The latest report has been circulated to councillors covering the Melksham Area. 16 offences were recorded in 'Melksham South' which includes Seend Parish. The Police are maintaining this area as a priority.

Parish Steward

The Clerk to request the Parish Steward undertake:

- * Reclean the Keep Left Bollard Lanterns either side of the Bell Crossroads on Bollands Hill
- * Speedwatch Sign on A361 western entrance to the village
- * Clear the gullies on Spout Lane to reduce the amount of spring water on the road.

Constitutional Updates

Updated copies Code of Conduct, Governance and Management Risk Register and Asset Register previously circulated to Councillors were approved at the meeting and have been published on the Council's website.

Subcommittee Membership Review

As a result of Georgina A'Bear's retirement, Councillors agreed to join the following Subcommittees:

- Planning - Bridget Johnstone, William Lack
- Precept – Bridget Johnstone, Jamie Halliday
- Neighbourhood Plan – Terry James

Finance

Bank Reconciliation to end of January 2022, circulated to Councillors, came to:
£38,681.09

Date of next meetings:

28th March & 25th April. Meetings commence at 7pm

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

NEWS FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Shared Lives: Home from Hospital : I am sure that many of us will have heard about or had some personal experience of Ambulance waiting times at A&E this winter. Wiltshire Council is working closely with the NHS to reduce A&E waiting times with a new support service to help people who are medically fit to leave hospital and continue their recovery in a safe environment while regaining the daily living skills and confidence they need to return to their own home.

The Shared Lives Home from Hospital Service enables people to stay and be cared for, in the home of a Shared Lives carer for up to 12 weeks before either returning to their own home or moving to somewhere that can provide ongoing support. The Home from Hospital Service means people don't have to stay in hospital when they are ready to leave. As well as creating a more supportive and homely environment, it also means more hospital beds are available for those who need them.

There are many reasons why people ready to leave hospital cannot return to their own home immediately. They may be waiting for adaptations to their home to make it suitable, require day to day support to continue their recovery following medical conditions such as a stroke, or to learn how to manage a long-term condition and there is no one at home to assist them. It could also be because they are waiting for the start of home care services or have had a period of mental ill health which required a hospital admission. It could be older people needing more time to recover and regain their strength and confidence following a hospital stay.

Wiltshire Council needs more Shared Lives carers to help deliver this very important service. The job is very flexible with carers able to work in their own home and fit around family life. Shared Lives carers do not need qualifications as training is provided but it helps to have a wide range of life experience.

- Shared Lives carers are paid £850 per week, per person for the Home from Hospital service.
- Carers are self-employed and eligible for tax breaks and can claim mileage.
- They have access to Wiltshire Council shopping rewards scheme and discounts at Wiltshire Council leisure facilities.
- They have membership of Shared Lives Plus.

Can you help ensure that our hospitals can run more efficiently, our nurses and doctors are not run ragged and most importantly that people are able to recuperate well? More information is at [Becoming a carer - Wiltshire Council](#). Thank you.

Tamara Reay

Wiltshire Councillor for Devizes Rural West.

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



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER PHILIP WILKINSON'S COLUMN

Volunteers play a vital role in helping to keep our county safe and are a great way for members of the public to get more involved in policing matters, which is why I'm thrilled to be opening the latest round of volunteer recruitment this week.

I strongly believe policing should be community led, and not just done to us. To continue to do this we need to have ongoing and open conversations with volunteers who represent these communities and encourage more people to get involved.

Having individuals and groups who are willing to meet, discuss and challenge the police service is vital. They generously give up their time to check and test our services, help us understand the community's perception, ensure we are continuing to treat people with dignity and respect, and influence decision making when policing is changing.

There are several groups and individuals who work with the OPCC and the Force, these include the Independent Advisory Group, Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel, Multi Agency Hate Crime Group, BME Advisory Group, Independent Custody Visitors, CCTV volunteers and more.

When appropriate I attend these groups to listen and understand the views of the group, how policing is impacting others, and how we need to change and improve.

In my role these independent voices are so important, and I would like to thank all those who give their time to these groups and roles. Your independent voice has a real impact on how we police our county and how we shape services for the future.

To see my office's current volunteering vacancies, please visit: www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/the-pcc-and-you/get-involved/

** Wiltshire PCC Philip Wilkinson has added his voice to his fellow south west Police and Crime Commissioners to lobby for further action against fly-tipping. The five PCCs from Wiltshire, Avon and Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Devon and Cornwall have agreed that more needs to be done to tackle the growing menace of fly-tipping across the countryside.*

** Over the past year members of the Youth Commission gathered the views of over 2300 young people aged 14-25 from across the county on the community safety and policing issues that matter most to them, which will be presented to the PCC, Wiltshire Police and partner agencies.*

BITS AND BOBS

KEEVIL DRAMA GROUP

If you're interested in joining and would like a chat please call Vivien Scott on 01380 871447 or Diane Bouault on 01380 870545.

Melksham & District Flower Arrangement Society meets on the third Tuesday each month at 2pm in Seend Community Centre. Next meeting 18th April. Please join us for tea.
Visitors: £5 per visit to include refreshments.



CARER SUPPORT WILTSHIRE

Would you like to learn new skills, or use your existing ones, helping others? Are you looking for a way to contribute positively to your community and to meet new people? If so, have you considered volunteering?

Carer Support Wiltshire are a local charity who support unpaid carers in the county. Someone is an unpaid carer if they support someone who is unwell, has a disability or is elderly. Many people support family members and they do so because they want the best for the person they care for. But caring for someone can be very difficult, emotionally, and physically, and can leave the person caring feeling worn out and isolated.

Carer Support Wiltshire are currently looking for volunteers to fill vacancies that directly support people who are caring for someone. If you would like to find out more, or if you have a skill you feel could be put to use, they'd love to hear from you.

Vacancies in your area

Here to Talk Telephone Befriender

The Here to Talk service provides low level emotional support to carers across Wiltshire. You will be a friendly voice at the end of the phone, a listening ear and someone who will provide reassurance during challenging times. Successful applicants will have excellent listening skills and be empathetic and non-judgemental. You will be able to commit to a minimum of half an hour every two weeks. Full training is provided.

Carer Cafe Facilitator

We are looking for volunteers to help run our carer cafe in Melksham. You will need to be able to commit to a minimum of two hours per month. The aim of this role is to create a safe and supportive group environment for unpaid carers at a local venue, providing them with a much-needed break from their caring responsibilities. Training will be provided.

For more information on volunteering for Carer Support Wiltshire, email volunteer@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk or phone 01380 908158.



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME – WWW.NGS.ORG.UK

Many wonderful gardens in Wiltshire are open in April - some very local to us. Do check on the website where you can see all the details but it is always best to check before leaving for your garden visit.

- Corsham Court,
- Broadleas House Gardens,
- Brow Cottage Seend Hill,
- Seend House,
- Seend Manor,
- Blackland House, Quemerford,
- Iford Manor Gardens, B-on-A
- Allington Grange Allington, Chippenham,
- Foxley Manor ,Foxley, Malmesbury,
- Oare House nr Pewsey
- Waterdale House, East Knoyle,



THE 2023 EDINGTON ARTS CHORAL WORKSHOP

On Saturday 20th May Jeremy Summerly, well-known broadcaster and Director of the Edington Festival Consort, will lead a choral workshop in Edington Priory Church, working on spirituals

compiled and arranged by Bob Chilcott.

These beautiful songs well repay some in-depth attention, and will challenge us to explore a different kind of singing. Jeremy will give a short talk on their history and context before we get down to business. Some of the spirituals will be familiar (though we may remember them wrongly!) and others will be new to us. Either way, it will be a rewarding day's music lead by a knowledgeable musician and experienced and tolerant educator.

The day starts with registration at 9.30am, till approximately 4.30pm, ending with a run-through for family and friends after tea and cake. The cost, at £20, (students £10), including arrival and mid-morning refreshments and music hire. Application forms are downloadable from www.edingtonarts.org/whats-on or email anne@edingtonarts.org.



Lavington Community Choir will be singing together enthusiastically from Thursday April 13th at the start of the summer term. New voices welcome.

First session is free, no commitment. There are no auditions and rehearsal tracks are provided on <https://lavingtoncommunitychoir.org/> so it isn't necessary to read music. We meet at Market Lavington Community Hall on Thursday evenings at 8 for an 8.15 start. There's a bar in the interval. The subscription is £4 per week or we have termly and half termly rates too. LCC Summer Concert is on **July 7th 2023**

Do have a look at our online colour supplement at seend.org.uk - click on Spotlight then on April colour supplement. This month includes a 100th birthday celebration, Keevil School pupils doing their bit for the environment and more!

Happy Easter to all our Readers!



And finally

I swapped the labels around on our herb and spice collection. My partner hasn't noticed yet, but the thyme is cumin.

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 or 828970

Bulkington Village Hall - Nev Boulton 828101 or Roger Futter 828485

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

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

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

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

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

Seend School – 828334

Bulkington Website: www.bulkington.org.uk

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

Rights of Way Warden – Paul Millard, 01225 712821

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

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

Police Community Support—Sargent Twyford. email: James.tyford@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 07719918310

Cricket Club - Brian Hunt 828581

Fawltly 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 - friendsofseendschool@gmail.com

Historic Houses Club - Mary Warren 01380

828076 or Neil Yockney 827139

LINK Scheme - 075320 55560

Lye Field - www.seendlyefield.org

Neighbourhood Watch - Seend - Brian

Hunt 828581, Sells Green - Cavan Moroney

828606, Seend Cleeve - Owen Burton

828820, theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk

Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 828617

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

Seend Baby & Toddler Group - Eleanor

Braney 07947 867701

SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com

Seend CLT - www.seendclt.org

info@seendclt.org

Seend Fund - Anita Shea 828757

Short Mat Bowls Club - Colin Waldeck

01225 736092

Table tennis - Chris Brooker, 828047

Tennis Club – Sally Jackson

Theatre Club - Ken Harvey 828511,

or 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



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