

# ***SPOTLIGHT***

***Seend & Bulkington***



**December 2023 / January 2024**

## DIARY DATES FOR LATE NOVEMBER

- 28<sup>th</sup> Seend Parish Council meeting, Community Centre, 7pm  
29<sup>th</sup> Nosh and Natter Lunch Club, 12 for 12.30pm, Community Centre  
29<sup>th</sup> Brewery Inn Quiz Night  
30<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 23 Berhills Lane is scheduled to be resurfaced

## DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> First Friday Coffee Morning, Community Centre Lounge Bar, 10.30 am  
2<sup>nd</sup> Coffee Morning, Bulkington Village Hall, 10.30 am – 12 noon  
2<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Bingo, Community Centre  
3<sup>rd</sup> Alzheimer's Support Christmas Concert, 2-4 pm Community Centre  
4<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library: 9.40am Seend, The Lye, 10.05am Seend Cleeve, phone box;  
11 am Bulkington, The Well Inn Car Park  
6<sup>th</sup> Bulkington Village Lunch, 12.15 for 12.30 at The Well  
9<sup>th</sup> Seend Wine Circle, Community Centre  
10<sup>th</sup> Seend Ramblers walk from Devizes harf 10am  
14<sup>th</sup> "Twisted Christmas Play" Owyado Theatre Co. at Community Centre  
15<sup>th</sup> Sir Mathew Thorpe's book launch, Community Centre from 7 pm  
15<sup>th</sup> Seend School Christmas Fayre 5 –8pm  
20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Nosh and Natter Lunch Club, 12 for 12.30pm, Community Centre  
31<sup>st</sup> New Year Eve Party, The Reason and DJ Meaze, Community Centre 7 pm

## DIARY DATES FOR JANUARY 2024

- 1<sup>st</sup> New Years Day walk. From The Community Centre. All welcome.  
5<sup>th</sup> First Friday Coffee Morning, Community Centre Lounge Bar, 10.30 am  
8<sup>th</sup> Mobile Library: 9.40am Seend, The Lye, 10.05am Seend Cleeve, phone box;  
11 am Bulkington, The Well Inn Car Park  
13<sup>th</sup> **LAST DATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT**  
13<sup>th</sup> Ceilidh with Random and Caller Phil Bassindale, Community Centre 7.30pm  
21<sup>st</sup> Seend & District Ramblers  
31<sup>st</sup> Nosh and Natter Lunch Club, 12 for 12.30pm, Community Centre



### Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion & Seend Lye Field

Available for parties, meetings, sports events.

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

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

### **SEEND COMMUNITY LINK SCHEME**

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

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

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

Telephone 07532 055560 - [www.seend.org.uk/seend\\_link](http://www.seend.org.uk/seend_link)

### **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

# WELCOME TO DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY2024 SPOTLIGHT

*Tis the season to be jolly!*

So in these winter, darker months we need to do this by getting out and meeting people if you can, and maybe trying new things. Lots to do in our area. Within these pages you can find many things to do over the next two months. Also celebrations small and large to join in with.

Your Spotlight team would like to wish everyone a  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



**Spotlight Contacts:** Contributions for the February 2024 edition (copy by Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024) can be emailed to [spotlight@seend.org.uk](mailto:spotlight@seend.org.uk) or delivered to Seend Post & Provisions. Editors: Tessa Doe (07719 917814) Sue Isaac (828461) and Jan Field (827140). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to individuals – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401), Jan Field (827140) for printing and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Potential volunteer deliverers or printers can contact Fiona or Jan. **Lost emails:** Emails to Spotlight sometimes go astray for no obvious reason. **If email correspondents don't receive an acknowledgement by the end of the Monday after the Spotlight deadline, please ring editors (see above) to check if all is well.** And please note the following. **When sending emails to [spotlight@seend.org.uk](mailto:spotlight@seend.org.uk)** please include the word **SPOTLIGHT** in uppercase to help the editorial team sifting through all the messages stopped by the SPAM filter, which sometimes include genuine messages for SPOTLIGHT.

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

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

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

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

Remember the Seend fund is your local fund. Anyone living in or closely associated with Seend, including our close neighbours in Bulkington and Poulshot, can apply by emailing the secretary ([anitashea@hotmail.co.uk](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 EVENTS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY



AT THE HEART OF  
OUR COMMUNITY

**First Friday Coffee Mornings** on the 1<sup>st</sup> December and 5<sup>th</sup> January from 10.30am in the Lounge. Come and enjoy freshly made real coffee or tea (plus a refill) and delicious home-made cakes for just £2.50. Everyone welcome! No need to book.



### **Nosh and Natter Lunches**

The monthly lunch club meets at 12 for 12.30pm on Weds, 20th December and 31st January. The 20th of December is the Christmas lunch, with a full Turkey roast, trifle, glass of wine. Christmas attire, jumpers/hats etc are encouraged.

Please book in advance for all lunch dates by calling Pauline on 01380 828638 or Fiona on 828401. Two courses for £7.50; lovely home-made dishes prepared and served by the excellent N+N team!



**TGI Fridays** Every Friday from 6:30 pm. Club members and guests meet in the Members Bar. Come along and find out what's going on in and around the village. The popular First Friday of the Month Free Snacks have returned! The First Friday dates are 1<sup>st</sup> December and 5<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Christmas Bingo - Saturday 2nd December**

Doors Open at 7:15. Eyes Down 8pm

Always a good evening. Raffle and Prizes. No need to book.

### **Alzheimer's Support Christmas Carol Concert Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2-4pm**

Tickets available from 01380 739055 or [alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk](http://alzheimerswiltshire.org.uk)

Adults £6 Children £3

### **Seend Christmas Wine Circle - Saturday 9th December**

A choice of wines suitable for the Festive Season.

Contact [seendwinecircle@gmail.com](mailto:seendwinecircle@gmail.com) to book

### **Theatre Performance "Twisted Christmas" Thursday 14th December 7:30 pm**

by the Owyado Theatre Company with its "deliciously depraved" take on the holiday season. Thursday 14th December. Tickets available at the CC Box Office.

Adults £15. Young People aged 14-17 £12

### **31st December NYE Party at the CC from 7pm.**

Already looking forward to the Festive Season?

Come and join us at the Community Centre New Year's Eve Party with music from The Reason and DJ Meaze.

Food Van Catering.



### **Ceilidh with Random and Caller Phil Bassindale**

Saturday 13th January 7.30pm

Have a dance and some fun. No experience required - all the dances will be taught and called by an expert caller. Ticket in advance at: CC Box Office £11 Adult, Under 18s, £6 with Under 12s free. Tickets On the Door £12/£7

Bar Opening times  
Weds, Thurs & Sat from 7pm Friday from 6pm and Sun 12 –4.

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



### **BREWERY INN EVENTS**

Quiz Night— 20th December    Xmas Draw—23rd December  
Christmas Eve—Festive Sing Along    New Years Eve TBC  
New Years day breakfasts from 10am

Start 2024 with The New Years Day village walk followed by home-made soup and other snacks in the Community Centre. Watch out for details on Facebook, the CC website and posters nearer the time.

## **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.*

**Book Launch and Signing At Seend Community Centre Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
7pm Please come and join Seend Resident & Community Centre trustee, Sir **Mathew Thorpe** as he launches his 2nd book "**Marking Time - My Family and I**".

Signed copies will be on sale, these are ideal Christmas Gifts!  
Join us in the bar from 19.00 - All Welcome!

### **SYLVIA EWIN**

Sylvia wishes all her friends in Seend a Happy Christmas and a Healthful New Year. Instead of cards this year she will be making a donation to Cerebra, the charity for brain damaged children.

### **Church Wall Rebuild Fund – THANK YOU!**

I would like to thank everyone who responded to our appeal letter and donated towards the church's share of having the wall rebuilt between The Old Stables and the Holy Cross churchyard. We have received amounts large and small but, each given with generosity of spirit and kindness of heart. The target of £10,000 has been reached! Any excess will go towards the South Door replacement project – a glass door replacing the current old wooden ones, to give a view from inside Holy Cross over the Potterne Vale. For anyone not currently a member of *The Friends of Holy Cross Church* and who would like to contribute towards the maintenance and conservation of our beautiful church building, please let me know or find a leaflet in the church or village shop. With blessings and thanks, Len Murray (Churchwarden – contact details on the back page).

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **You are Invited!**

As Christmas approaches we can find ourselves getting swept away in a whirlwind of activity as we seek to ensure that everyone's expectations of the season's celebration are met.

I wonder what Mary's expectations were in the days leading up to the birth of her son Jesus? I doubt she imagined it would take place in a lowly stable amongst the animals sheltering from the cold, in Bethlehem. After all, it was an angel who had visited her and invited her to be the mother of Jesus, 'Emmanuel', God with us.

No doubt she would not have expected either, that local shepherds would be told of the birth by an angel, amidst a multitude of angels, praising God's Glory. Nor would she have expected to be visited by kings, who had followed a star from a distant land, to bring precious gifts and their heartfelt worship to her baby son.

This year as many of us come once again to celebrate Christmas, we do so knowing that no matter how hard we try, we cannot possibly create the perfect Christmas, for ourselves or anyone else. But we can accept God's invitation to share together and Celebrate afresh the gift of his son, 'Emmanuel', God with us. God with us, not only at Christmas time, but with us this day and everyday no matter what.

The Wellsprings family of churches would like to invite you to join us across the Benefice for our various services as we Celebrate Christmas. These include, Carol, Crib and Nativity Services, Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve and morning services on Christmas Day. Please see the magazine and our website for full details.

**A special invitation**, to our Live Nativity, in the Vicarage Byre at 22 Dial Close, Seend on 20th December from 6.30-8pm. All welcome, real donkey in the barn, carols, mulled wine, fire pit and more!

In the New Year we will also be celebrating the arrival of our new Wellsprings Rector, Reverend Gerry Lynch, more details to follow!

With Every Blessing for Christmas and the New Year,

Reverend Caroline O'Neill, Associate Priest



### **From the Registers:**

#### **Baptisms**

Keiran Hockings on 29<sup>th</sup> October at St Peter's, Poulshot.

Lily Lamb on 29<sup>th</sup> October at Holy Cross, Seend.

No weddings or funerals this month.

#### **Ever 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





## **CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2023**

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

**We would like to warmly invite you to join us at our services across  
the benefice this Christmas.**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 3:30pm** Messy Church      Potterne Village Hall

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> (Advent 1)**

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

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> (Advent 2)**

9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
4pm	Evensong	Seend

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> (Advent 3)**

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Seend
9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Holy Communion	Worton
6pm	Carol Service	Bulkington
6pm	Carol Service	Potterne

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**

7pm	Carol Service	Seend
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**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> (Advent 4/Christmas Eve)**

2pm	Crib Service	Bulkington
6pm	Carol Service	Poulshot
6pm	Carol Service	Worton
11:30pm	Midnight Communion	Potterne
11:30pm	Midnight Communion	Seend

**Christmas Day**

9am	Family Holy Communion	Bulkington
9:30am	Family Holy Communion	Potterne
9:30am	Family Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Family Holy Communion	Worton
10:30am	Family Holy Communion	Seend

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> (Christmas 1)**

10am	Benefice Service	Bulkington
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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.

## **CHURCH SERVICES IN WELLSPRINGS BENEFICE JANUARY 2024**



### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany)**

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

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany 2)**

9:30am	Holy Communion	Poulshot
9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
4pm	Evensong	Seend

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> (Epiphany 3)**

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

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> (Epiphany 4)**

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

### **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup>**

5pm	Celtic Meditative Service	Poulshot
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**\*\* Please note there is no Messy Church this month.**

**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.



## Families and Children activities 2023 to 2024



**Living Nativity**

**20th December 6-8pm**

**Seend Vicarage Byre**  
parking at Community Centre,  
Rusty Lane SN12 6NS

Details TBC

**4th Sunday of month 9.30am**  
**at Christ Church Worton**

**Informal**  
**Family Service**

Details on Wellsprings Benefice  
FaceBook page  
[www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk](http://www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk)

Fridays at 3.30pm in  
Potterne Village Hall

**29th September**  
**3rd November**  
**1st December**  
**2024 Messy Church**  
**TBA**

**Blessing of the Crib with**  
**'Scratch' Nativity Play**

**2pm 24th December at Christ**  
**Church Bulkington**

find us on  
**Facebook**

**Messy Easter Workshop**  
**Holy Cross Seend**

**10am 29th March**  
**(Good Friday)**



# **BULKINGTON NEWS**

## **MONTHLY PARISH MEETING – DRAFT Minutes**



**Councillors met for the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 at 7.30pm at the Bulkington Village Hall**

**Present:** Philip Oakey (Chair), Alison Howard Evans, Julie Anderson-Hill, Andrew Grabham, Carla Haslam, Tamara Reay  
2 members of the village: Tim Taylor and Steve Kerslake

**1 Apologies for absence:** Alex Breach

**2 To Record:**

No changes to the Register of Interests were made

No interest in Agenda Items was declared

**3 Tamara Reay welcomed questions from the public:**

A member of the village raised that there have been an increase in power cuts recently and asked Tamara to investigate

Councillors questioned the lack of mention of self builds in the Local plan. The Consultation is on till 22<sup>nd</sup> of November

Devizes Gateway – councillors raised that Devizes Gateway is not on the map as a potential station. \*Tamara has since checked and Devizes Gateway is included in Policy 75\*.

Tim Taylor reported that he has been pursuing pub signage for 9 months to get brown road signs installed in 3 locations, with no progress. (Worton road sign facing each way, top of Seend Hill and the strand on the Bulkington junction)  
Tim agreed to send Tamara the latest correspondence so Tamara can see if she can help.

Councillors and villagers questioned what portion of the contract for Stewards is covered by Wiltshire council costs and raised their concerns over the wrapping of Stewards vehicles from white to yellow for just 12 months.

**4 Local Police Report:** Latest report not published yet

**5 Open Forum:** Tim Taylor raised that the Defib was used at the weekend and the batteries are low, with pads needing replacement. Philip agreed to investigate the following day and arrange replacements where necessary and ensure the Defib is ready for safe use should it be needed.

Villagers questioned timings for a swing and the spend of funds raised for the Rec Ground before the last Rec Committee was dissolved .

**6 Local Planning Updates:**

**Application No:** PL/2023/07101

No concerns raised by councillors.

**Application Type:** Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)

**Proposal:** Demolition of an single storey rear extension and replacement with new proposed single storey rear extension. New replacement courtyard roof and wall with internal alterations.

**Site Address:** MANOR FARM, BULKINGTON, DEVIZES, SN10 1SL

**Applicant:** Alex & Hannah Breach

**7 Minute Approval:** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting in September were approved as a true record

**8 Finance:**

Clerk Pay	£325
Grass cutting	£228
Memorial Round fence posts	£685.30
Remembrance Day Wreath	£25

The above costs were approved unanimously. The cost for a new Bin was not approved and the request was made for a quote for just a bin without installation.

New Bin	£312
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Following a complaint raised by the Clerk about the bin emptying service, a credit of £24.49 + VAT have been raised by Ideverde.

**9 Councillor Roles and Responsibilities**

Emergency Team – Alison and Andrew

Planning - Alison

Newsletter - Julie

War Memorial - Carla

Playing Field - Carla

Defibrillator - Philip

Website – Sue has kindly offered to help but would like villagers to help contribute material to put on there.

Village Hall liaison - Alison

LHFIG – Philip

Footpaths and byways - Alex

Finance and contracts including bins – Andrew and Philip

Parish Steward – Clerk plus all

Trees – Carla on park land with Eden's support

Best Kept Village - Julie

IT - Andrew

Insurance – Philip

Grass Cutting - Carla

**10 Recreational Ground:**

The ROSPA inspection took place last month the report is now delivered. There were red alerts on the zip wire.

The new play house and trim trail have now been ordered. The company have now requested welfare facilities and a skip – this is being contested.

Proposals for a new swing: 3 quotes between £4700 and £6000 plus vat have been received. Steve Kerslake kindly offered to donate £1000 towards a new swing on the proviso that the order is placed before the end of 2023.

Pathway – The Oakblokes will be returning to re-compact the gravel pathway.

Grass Cutting: Grass is cut every 2 to 3 weeks and is strimmed every time. Work dates will be included in Invoices.

The Rec Committee have been pushing on with the Tree proposal – visuals expected:

**11 Parish Steward:** Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visit. The last scheduled visit took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October.

**12 Recruitment:** Our Clerk Hannah has handed in her notice and will be leaving us at the end of the year. We are looking to fill this position, please get in touch if you would like more information. We are also recruiting for one Councillor to join the team, if you would like to put yourself forward, please email our Clerk.

**13 Tree Planting:** In our July meeting, Eden Speller presented some proposals from the Woodland Creation Funding. Discussion and next steps on the below proposals:  
Acquisition/lease of WC land in Mill Lane (that was earmarked for development)  
Planting of verge/hedgerow trees to create a 'gateway avenue' into the village  
Planting of 'parkland trees' in the Rec (can be incorporated in hedge-line and appropriate locations in field so not to reduce/impact upon the amenity)  
Councillors agreed the need for village support and buy in before planning goes ahead with most of these options. Carla will be leading the "Parkland Trees" option.

**14 Emergency Team updates:**

The Salt bin and other winter supplies need checking before going into Winter.

**15 War Memorial and Remembrance day:** Andrew to lay wreath as PC Vice Chair.

**Fence posts:** 3 of the fence posts surrounding the war memorial have rotted and can no longer stand strong or straight. Quotes have been obtained and specialists consulted for the repair or replacement. The posts are octagonal and have been soaked in creosote, a type of wood preservative that can cause some severe skin reactions in humans. They have also been installed upside down, with a sharp tip pointing upwards which would now be regarded less safe than a flat or rounded tip. Creosote is a restricted use pesticide that can only be used in outdoor settings where it does not come in contact with the general public. As the War Memorial is in a public space, where people touch the poles and school children wait for the bus opposite, councillors decided against replacing the poles with like for like replacement.

Quotes for the replacement of 3 posts (leaving them mismatched) and quotes for the replacement for all posts were compared and all councillors present concluded unanimously that it was more cost effective to replace all at once and know that the space is safe, matching and smart ahead of Remembrance Day.

**16 AOB:**

The Bulkington.org.uk website domain name registration has been updated

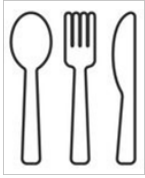
There has been a hold up on the drop curbs that were planned for August 23 - the curbs cover a BT access point so contact has been made with BT to work on a solution.

Newsletter: Julie volunteered to draft the latest edition of the Newsletter, councillors discussed possible topics: Parish Steward, tree planting opportunity and a plea to not play with the rocks on the pathway.

Tim kindly volunteered to print village notifications for events etc. and deliver them alongside Spotlight. Spotlight gets delivered at the end of each month.

**Next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm**

**December meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> December to be brought forward to 13<sup>th</sup> to avoid pre-Christmas rush.**



**The Bulkington Village Lunch**  
takes place on  
**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 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.



**CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**  
Bulkington PCC invites you to their  
Christmas Coffee Morning at Bulkington Village Hall  
**Sat. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. 10.30 am – 12 noon**  
There will be a Bring & Buy stall and  
a bumper raffle.  
Please come and meet up with old friends and new.  
Proceeds will be shared with Dorothy House.



### **BULKINGTON LADIES' GROUP**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December we are having a Christmas Lunch at The Three Magpies. If you haven't already done so, please give your menu choice to me asap.

Our January meeting will be on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. We will be having a planning meeting for 2024. Please come with your ideas. There will be the usual refreshments and raffle.

We wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

Liz 828485



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

will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Please contact

Phyl Yarde 828116 for the venue and also for the January date.

New people always welcome.

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



The **Mobile Library** will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 11.05-11.30 am.

## **SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS**

### **SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS 44TH PANTO**

Rehearsals are underway for our production of 'Aladdin' in Seend Community Centre on the evenings of 15th-17th February next. The cast seem to be having fun, so hopefully the audiences will too! Start practising your 'Look Behind You's and 'Oh No it Isn't's, but don't expect a straightforward telling of the story. You have been warned! Tickets will be available from mid-January.



### **SEEND WI**

At our November Meeting, against the backdrop of a beautiful Autumn afternoon, Joanne Huntley gave a very interesting talk on lace. An avid collector, she had several examples of lace collars, covering both needle and bobbin lace, some pieces dating back to the 1700s.

She showed examples of Honiton, Irish and Spanish work. Two members gallantly acted as models to show off the beautiful samples. The expertise of the lace makers was very impressive. Joanne was warmly thanked for introducing us to this very intricate craft work. Members brought wrapped gifts to the meeting to be given to vulnerable people for Christmas. Mention was made that Seend WI would place a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

The December meeting will be a Christmas Social. Members were invited to bring toiletries or hats and gloves to be distributed via Open Door. Looking ahead to January Kady Chatman will give a talk on "Riding for the disabled".

It just remains to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year from Seend WI.

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

Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511.

Joyce Harvey



### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

Kevin Toft and Gavin Perry continued their fundraising efforts completing the 11,000 steps in November, during which, Gavin laid a wreath at Thiepval memorial, in France.

On Friday 3 November, Wayne Cherry our Seend Membership Secretary, was interviewed in The Brittox, Devizes along with his daughter Leanne and Robin Heatley, Vice Chair. Wayne was completing his 100 hours standing as he has done for several years, fundraising for RBL.

A short ceremony took place around the War Memorial on Armistice Day. On Sunday 12 November, Remembrance Day, wreaths were laid at the War Memorial before proceeding into church with a packed congregation.

Our AGM and committee meeting was held on Thursday 23 November in the Community Centre.

Anita Heatley, Seend RBL/PR

## **SEEND THEATRE CLUB**

Our trip to the Wharf Theatre in Devizes to see John Godber's "Happy Jack" was very much enjoyed. Two talented actors portrayed brilliantly the hard life and times of a Yorkshire miner and his wife, taking us through the trials and tribulations of their marriage, in scenes from old age back to when they first met.



Also we visited Bath Theatre Royal to see "I'm Sorry, Prime Minister". This presented a sequel to and final chapter of the razor-sharp political satire "Yes Minister", written by Jonathan Lynn, one of the original writers of the hit series.

In December there will be a trip to Bath Abbey for Bach's Christmas Oratorio, performed by Bath Choral Society. Early in January we have a further visit to Bath Theatre Royal to see "The Circle", by W.Somerset Maugham, starring Jane Asher, Clive Francis and Nicholas Le Prevost. This play was first staged in 1921 and has remained a firm favourite with audiences ever since.

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

Ken Harvey

## **SEEND AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS**

Following a very wet week, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November was fine and sunny for our walk. 14 members met in Wootton Rivers near Marlborough for a shorter than normal, given the amount of water and mud, walk of approx. 4 miles. The route followed the canal towpath towards Burbage, after a couple of bridges we turned off the canal and walked up the road joining the disused railway line towards



Marlborough. This was followed and ended up being less muddy than expected. We joined a bridleway which then took us back towards the village and back to the starting point. A very enjoyable walk led by Tim, Reg and Sandy.

Next walk will be Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Penny and Ron will lead the walk from the Wharf car park, 10am (£1 payable on a Sunday) approx. 5 miles, 2 inclines and 3 stiles. The traditional mulled wine and mince pies will follow the walk.

January walk will be on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> and members will be notified via , email with the details.

Come and join us for a ramble in 2024, we are friendly group who enjoy having a chat while out enjoying the countryside, you will be made very welcome.

As this is the last issue for this year, on behalf of all our members, we would like to wish the readers of Spotlight a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year .

Hopefully see some of you in 2024.

Sandy James 01380 739235



### **NOVEMBER DRAW**

1 No. 31	R Dick	£50	4 No.155	J Martine	£15
2 No.125	M Manser	£25	5 No. 63	K Williams	£15
3 No.118	L Murray	£25			

Thanks to volunteers of Community Speed Watch who helped with the draw.

Alison Bottomley



## **SEEND SCHOOL**

We have been reflecting on the importance of Remembrance and this concluded a special assembly here in school. We heard from three army personnel who shared why it is important to them and we held a two minutes silence, followed by listening to The Last Post.



In classes, children have enjoyed creating pieces of art both individually and collaboratively. I think you'll agree from the photos they've done a fantastic job! (See online colour supplement)

Our Principal, Mrs Hutchinson attended the Remembrance Service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November along with a group of pupils who helped lay the school wreath.

Amy Paget, Pupil Services Administrator

## **SEEND PLAYGROUP**

At the end of October we collected leaves to make a pumpkin picture. We also looked for pumpkins outside people's homes in the Lye and Cooks Close. We saw 25 pumpkins.



The children made a poppy picture, but it was too wet to go to the war memorial, so we sent a photo to the Royal British Legion.

Each child had a heart-shape which they coloured in for Diwali. They can hang it up at their windows to let the light through.

On the 17th November we will decorate biscuits to sell to raise money for Children in Need.

We will be practising our Nativity ready to perform on Friday 8th December at 10.30am. Everyone is welcome to join us and stay for a coffee morning and a hamper raffle. On Friday 15th December we will have our Christmas party and Father Christmas will be visiting at 11am.

Our last day is 19th December and we will return on Thursday 4th January 2024.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Happy New Year, from Rose, Nikki, Val, Amy, Liz D and Liz F.

Rose Dick, Playgroup Leader, 828003

## **SHUTTLE NEWS**

After many months of problems with their computer system the Charity Commission has now uploaded the annual report for the Seend Community Bus. If you are interested you can find lots of information about the bus and our financial records on their website.



The new bus we ordered is now at the coach fitters and they have ordered the seats, so it shouldn't be too long before we have a Seend Shuttle five! Watch this space.

There will be no Salisbury trip in January so the next one after Christmas will be February 7th. Contact Anita on 01380 828757 to reserve a seat.

Anita Shea

## **SEEND PARISH COUNCIL NOTICES**

There is grant funding available from the Area Board for projects which support Older and Vulnerable Adults in our communities. It is to support projects that benefit and improve older and vulnerable residents' health and wellbeing to reduce social isolation and loneliness and to support people maintaining independence at home. This could include lunch clubs, community transport, memory cafes for example. Further information can be found on line under Devizes Area Board Grants.

Berhills Lane is scheduled to be resurfaced 30 November – 2 December 23.

Parking in the disabled bay in Spout Lane is for Disabled drivers ONLY. Please do not use this bay if you are not eligible. Drivers are also asked to be considerate when parking in Spout Lane as emergency vehicles have had difficulty accessing properties due to parking on either side of the road.

PC Elliott Holdsworth is Seend's new Rural Neighbourhood PC. His details are [Elliott.holdsworth@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:Elliott.holdsworth@wiltshire.police.uk). He will be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting in the New Year.

## **SEEND PARISH COUNCIL**

### **October PC meeting**

Attendance - 9 Councillors, Cllr Reay, Acting Clerk & 3 parishioners

### **Local Council Matters**

Cllr Reay provided the following update:

**Bad Weather/Storm Advice** Parishioners are asked to report any issues regarding blocked gulleys on MyWilts app.

**Wiltshire's Local Plan** The consultation ends on 22 November. A meeting has been arranged on 14 November at 7pm in West Lavington Hall to discuss this. Two Seend councillors will attend. Seend Parish should be treated as whole to include its settlements.

The Wiltshire Local Plan, Rural Housing Requirements 2023 paper has been published explaining the process of distributing the Local Plan's Housing Market Area rural housing requirements to local Service Centre and Large Villages in order to inform Local Plan policies and support neighbourhood planning in Wiltshire.

**Older and Vulnerable Adult Grants** There is grant funding available for projects which support Older and Vulnerable Adults ie. lunch clubs, community transport, memory cafes.

**Community Governance Review** The Electoral Review Committee will meet publicly on 13 December to consider each Review area. For Seend, there is an anomaly involving one property on the A365. Representations can be emailed to [CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk). To be discussed at November meeting.

**Matters Arising** After The Lye Field meeting in November, the Parish Council will be informed when payment is required for the mower.

**Items for Discussion** There is a Volunteer Tree Warden Scheme. Parish Council will look into this and report back at the November meeting.

## **Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)**

**The Bell Crossroads / Bollands Hill** Tamara Reay will arrange a meeting with Wiltshire Highways and Parish Council to review the junction layout and traffic management on Bollands Hill.

At present, police only log accidents which involve injury but it would be appreciated if all accidents could be reported to the Clerk so that a full record is maintained.

**Bradley Lane & Rusty Lane** The wooden posts at the top of Bell Hill have been knocked down. This has been reported.

Tamara Reay reported that a Highways Matters event is scheduled for 26 February 2024, the next Devizes Area Board. A representative from Parish Council will attend.

There is a new Rights of Way officer. Tamara Reay will ensure the works required are one of his priorities. Clerk will contact him to discuss the scale of the proposed work with potential timeframe.

**Speed Watch** Lack of communication and adequate support from the Community Speed Watch team of the Wiltshire police organisation is frustrating the start of the village Speed Watch scheme. Tamara Reay has raised this concern.

**Neighbourhood Plan** The Neighbourhood Plan needs to be updated. Councillors will consider how best to take this forward.

**Planning Applications** The Parish Council raised no objections to the following applications:

**PL/2023/07540** – Cleeve House, Trowbridge Road – install a ground mounted solar PV/T panel system (50x panels).

**PL/2023/08358** – 1 Dial Close, Seend – Beech Tree – fell, grind and replant silver maple, crown lift to 5.2m over the road.

The Parish Council, with the exception of one Councillor, approved the following application with a Condition that screening should be provided to make it less visible from the road:

**PL/2023/08407** – Great Thornham Lodge, Trowbridge Road – Proposed general purpose agricultural building for hay, feed and machinery storage.

**Devizes Area Board** The next Area Board meeting is 20 November at 6.30pm. A Highways Matters event at the following Area Board on 26th February 2024.

## **Items of Correspondence**

**Church Wall** The Minutes of the last meeting were amended to read that ‘legal ownership’ of the wall needs resolving before the Parish Council (not Church) contributes towards the rebuild. Clerk has also placed this amendment on Village FB.

**Local Rights of Way** Further correspondence has been received regarding the use of the footpaths on private land. Landowners must not block public footpaths. If landowners wish to offer additional public access across their land they can do so but this additional access cannot replace/change the formal right of way. If a landowner wants to change the location/route of a right of way they must contact Wiltshire Council’s Rights of Way team, any cost incurred is the responsibility of the landowner.

**Councillor Vacancies** A member of the public attended the meeting with a view to applying to become a Councillor. She was asked to send in her cv/resume and will be invited to a forthcoming meeting.

**Finance** Bank Reconciliation to end of September 2023, circulated to Councillors, came to: £47,539.84.

**Items of Note** Tamara Reay reported that she is now attending Marston Parish Council meetings. They meet bi-monthly (odd months) so she will aim to join Seend Parish Council on even months but attend both on odd months.

The Spout Lane disabled parking space is being abused and should only be used by disabled drivers. Inconsiderate parking in Spout Lane is also making it difficult for emergency vehicles to access.

The hedges on Bollands Hill, mainly near Wessex Water site, still need to be cut back. All parishioners are asked to cut back their shrubs/hedging for pedestrians' safety.

The post at the top of Inmarsh Lane has been replaced but the sign is still to be positioned.


PC Elliott Holdsworth is our new Rural Neighbourhood PC. He can be contacted by email [Elliott.holdsworth@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:Elliott.holdsworth@wiltshire.police.uk). It is hoped he will attend a Parish Council meeting in the New Year.

**Dates of next Parish Council meetings:**

Tuesday 28 November 7pm at the Community Centre

Tuesday 30 January 7pm at the Community Centre

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

 An organisation which provides safe spaces and practical support for young people through tailored mentoring programmes has received a community fund award from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is helping to fund groups which engage young people in diversionary activities as a way of tackling anti-social behaviour, exploitation, and serious violence – directly delivering priorities two and three of the Police and Crime Plan.

This week, Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson visited a youth club session supported by SMASH after the group was recently awarded funding through the PCC's Community Action Fund, as well as receiving a grant of £497,000 after a successful bid from the OPCC to the latest round of the Home Office's Safer Streets Fund.

The organisation runs several strands of mentoring programmes to build resilience, motivation, and self-confidence, develop skills to enter into education, training, or employment, and promote wellbeing in a holistic space.

SMASH will now use the extra funding to contribute towards a new detached youth work project that will take their mentoring expertise onto the streets.

Mr Wilkinson said: "Groups like SMASH that provide support, guidance, and activities for the young people of Wiltshire play a crucial role in developing well rounded, respectful, young members of society – which in turn reduces crime and creates safer spaces for all.

“Unfortunately, we know there is a link between more deprived areas and crime levels, so detached youth projects like this are great for focusing on the areas that need it most.

“My office will continue to invest in these, and other similar services to show our commitment to supporting young people and creating opportunities for them to thrive in their communities.”

SMASH’s new detached youth work project will run alongside their existing mentoring service and youth club sessions.

Amy Cox, Detached Youth Work Mentor at SMASH said: “We are incredibly excited to be able to continue our street based mentoring project, as we will be able to meet young people in their own settings, on their turf.

“We have spent the last couple of months writing policies and procedures and in meetings with the police, local youth activity providers, children's services and Youth Justice to create a suitable offer for young people focusing on the right areas and with the right information and support.

“Through meeting young people on the streets, we are creating safe activities and giving them safe adults to engage with, build relationships with, as well as offer help, support and signposting.”

Find out more about the community groups funded by the PCC’s Community Action Fund, the eligibility criteria and how to apply for future funding [here](#).

## **KEEVIL CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Pupils at Keevil Primary School have enjoyed an action packed month. Year five and six embarked on a week-long residential at the Pencelli centre in the Brecon Beacons, where they took part in a number of activities including canoeing, caving, rock climbing and orienteering. The children braved the extremely wet and chilly weather brought by Storm Ciaran.

Keevil School works hard to enable all children access to at least two residential trips. The purpose is to challenge the children - pushing them just outside of their comfort zone. Together with a break from all electronic devices, the children get to do things that they have never done before (and might consider to be a little scary). Through such accomplishments the children develop huge amounts of self-esteem, self-belief and resilience. This translates directly into improved performance within the school and classroom.

Some of the younger pupils in year 1 and 2 enjoyed a fantastic history trip to the SS Great Britain in Bristol. To say that the children were enthusiastic would be an understatement! They enjoyed a full guided tour of the ship, together with the opportunity to dress up in period clothing.

The School is looking forward to a busy December, with the children preparing for their annual carol performances at local care homes, and the traditional church nativity service in St. Leonard’s church.

## **SPORTING, DRAMATIC and LITERARY NEWS**



**Literary;** following last month's brief reporting of Sir Mathew Thorpe's latest book I have now been asked to mention, from time to time, other notable publications, although I will restrict myself to biographies. I have just finished Justine Picardie's volume entitled "Coco Chanel, The Legend and The Life", all 365 pages, complete with well over 150 photographs and illustrations, which I highly recommend particularly if you are interested in the history and political context of fashion.

**Tennis;** Two winter league fixtures have been played in the first few days of November, Calne on the evening of the 8th swiftly followed by Melksham on the 11th. Firstly congratulations and thanks to the players, Pam Ackerman, Henrietta McNeil, Karin and Marek Dolak, Andrew Johnstone and Harry Waylen. Seend won at Calne on a crisp Wednesday evening, 6 degrees C, by 6 sets to 2, Harry leading the way, and then on Saturday Seend squeezed past Melksham 5-3 with Karin, aged just 11, taking control, firstly partnering Pam in the women's and then teaming up with Harry who together put on an incredible display of power tennis.

Our next opponents are Biddestone at home, Henrietta, Atalanta, Liam and Alex, before an away fixture in picturesque Freshford in early December with the year's final match against Chippenham on the 17th December when again Harry and Karin will team up in the mixed but not before our first pair of Scout and Karin face the opposition women. This will certainly be a match worth visiting Chippenham just to watch the high level that Seend can play at.

**Cycling;** Ric tells me that it has been a quiet month for Seend's cycling group quaintly calling themselves The Pork Pie club. Their last outing was to The Three Daggers in Eddington, one of their favourite haunts. Anyone wishing to join the peloton just contact Ric but, remember to bring your own sandwiches.

**Football;** Seend, under the management of Andy Dyer, remain top of Division 1 of the Trowbridge and District League having seen off two of their closest rivals in the last few weeks with a 4-0 win over Heytesbury and Codford following a 3-0 victory against Bradford Town Reserves. Presently the table shows Seend having played 10, won 8, drawn 1 and lost 1. The cup run has not been so straightforward. On Saturday the 11th November the team travelled to Wilton for a cup tie in the Wiltshire Junior Cup but only 9 Seend players made it onto the pitch at the start of the match. That number increased to 10 for the second half thanks to our manager multi-tasking by child minding for the new arrival whilst deciding on tactics for his squad who were still a man down. With just 3 minutes remaining Seend were sadly 2-1 down but an 87th minute equaliser levelled the score and the penalty shootout resulted in a 3-2 victory for the village team who now go on to the next round. Well done all !

**Athletics;** The Bromham 10K Pudding Run takes place on the 3rd of December but local star athlete Owen Lythel, who will take part, is still recovering from various setbacks so his mum Sian is not looking for a PB. Anyhow all the best Owen as you build up to the Bishops Cannings 5k next July.

All match reports, book reviews, stage news and fixture details by mid January please. Stop press: Football, Seend 2-1 Melksham! Frankie Goddard 828488



## **NURTURE NATURE**

With the recently named storms making headlines and the connection with changing climate patterns reminding one of looking back to other eras, e.g. the Ice Ages of the Pleistocene eras, a long time passing (2.58 million years to 11,700 years ago) with repeated periods of glaciations! In the last Ice Age Dogger Bank in the North Sea connected the British Isles to mainland Europe – one could walk from the East Coast of the British Isles to Scandinavia. The coming of the Ice Age wiped out the dinosaurs of the Jurassic Period, the point being that the earth and the world as we know it could be changing into another ‘Age’.



Loss of coastal areas is not new, e.g. in the thirteenth century Dunwich on the East Coast was lost to the sea in 1286 in a massive storm. Again, along the East coast an enormous storm surge with strong winds and high tides overnight, the North Sea rose by 5 metres and the death toll was 326. Many readers will remember that night of 31<sup>st</sup> January 1953. In the Netherlands the death toll was 2551, and 30,000 animals were drowned. One hopes that readers will not be alarmed by the above, but it is a fact of life on this planet that big changes do periodically take place. Maybe changes are now taking place accelerated by environmental factors worldwide, such changes, of course, have a knock-on effect for nature.

At a time of Remembrance in November one recalls Marlene Dietrich singing ‘where have all the young men gone?’ a song popular with both sides in WWII. One could extend the comparison to ‘where have all the songbirds gone?’. Certainly garden birds have all but disappeared in many people’s gardens. For the first time in living memory some readers have reported that there are no resident blackbirds. In a recent David Attenborough TV programme he said that over the last sixty years the British Isles has lost 38 million birds. On Countryfile the current series has so far been interesting and informative, scientists have reported that our seasons have changed in length by three weeks, spring especially coming earlier. It is noticeable this autumn that leaves have stayed on deciduous trees for longer. Many spring and summer bird migrant numbers are down, some collapsed like the nightingales, a 90% loss in the last fifty years, there are no more returning to Hampstead Heath (and Berkeley Square?!) and their traditional nesting sites on Salisbury Plain for instance – conservationists now believe that invasive muntjac deer eating the scrub have contributed to their demise.

If readers wish to hear a nightingale listen to Beatrice Harrison and her cello duet with a nightingale recorded in 1924, a beautiful duet available on the internet and old 78 records. Knapp in Kent is an excellent place to hear nightingales, it’s an area of former agricultural land which has been allowed to revert to scrub naturally. Hopefully we shall see and hear our winter migrants from Scandinavia – fieldfares, redwings, thrushes including blackbirds – yes, some do migrate – and if one is lucky in a severe winter, waxwings too.

Happy Christmas to all our readers, and please remember to give our Christmas bird, the robin redbreast, a special treat.

Otis Tarda

## WASSAIL

The word "wassail" is derived from Anglo-Saxon "wes Hal" or "be of good health". To wassail someone was to drink their health and prosperity. Often a wassail bowl was passed round with toasts and singing. People would sometimes carry the bowl from house to house singing to the health of the inmates.

In fruit growing districts it was common to wassail orchards to protect the trees from evil and to ensure a plentiful crop in the new year.

Celebrated traditionally on Old Twelfth Nights Eve, Ceremonies were performed which included singing, pouring cider on tree roots, placing cider soaked cake or toast in the branches, firing shotguns into the top branches and banging tin trays. The latter to drive away evil spirits and to arouse the sleeping trees.

## A TOAST

Old apple tree we wassail thee and hope that thou will bear  
That we may have apples and cider for next year.  
Hat-fulls, cap-fulls Three bushel bag-fulls,  
and little heaps under the stair.  
Hip-hip, hurrah

### Here We Come A-Wassailing - 1

Here we come a-was - sail-ing a - mong the leaves so green,  
Here we come a-wand - er - ing so fair - ly to be seen  
Now it's win - ter time stran - gers tra - vel far and near And we  
wish you, send you a Hap - py New Year

Bud and blossom, bud and blossom, bud and bloom and bear,  
So we may have plenty of cider all year.  
Hat full's and cap full's and in bushel bags and all  
And there's cider running out of every gutter hole.

## **BITS AND BOBS**

### **DEVIZES CHAMBER CHOIR**

A Christmas Celebration

With excerpts from The Messiah plus much loved Christmas carols and songs!

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

St Andrew's Church, Long Street, Devizes

Doors Open at 7 pm

Tickets £12 on the door, from choir members, Devizes Bookshop or

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/devizes-chamber-choir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/devizes-chamber-choir)

Looking forward to your coming along to start the Christmas Spirit with us.



**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 12-3pm**  
**Craft and Food Christmas Market**  
Furlong Close, Rowde, SN10 2JQ



### **Potterne Christmas Market**

**Saturday Dec 2nd**

11a.m. - 3 p.m.

at the Village Hall  
and the Social Club



### **Melksham Flower Club**

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month at

2pm in Seend Community Centre

5<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Flowers - demonstration

### **DAUNTSEY'S CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS**

an evening of Traditional Christmas Carols and Music

**Friday 8th December 7.30pm** at St Matthew's Church, Rushall, SN9 6DR

**FREE ADMISSION!**

Let us help you get in to the festive spirit with an evening of  
traditional Carols and Christmas music

A retiring collection will be made in aid of Church Funds &

Dauntsey's Choral Society

Refreshments will be served after the concert

**Melksham Choral Society  
Saturday December 9th.**



Christmas Concert 7.30pm in Melksham Reform Church.

We'll be singing choruses from Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man,  
a mass for peace and a selection of less usual Christmas carols.

**The Philomel Singers present - Prelude to Christmas**

A concert of Seasonal Music

**Saturday 9th December at 7.30pm**

St. Katharine's Church, Holt

Tickets: £10 (£8 in advance)/ Children £4

from [wegottickets.com/ThePhilomelSingers](http://wegottickets.com/ThePhilomelSingers) or at the door on the night

**White Horse Opera Christmas Music**

**Saturday 9th December 7.30pm At St. John's Church Devizes**

Christmas music including Mozart's Regina Coeli k127 and pieces by  
Rutter, Chilcott, Mendelssohn to name just a few.

There will be sing-a-long carols and plenty of mulled wine and mince pies

Tickets £15 from Devizes Books and [www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera)

**Seend School Christmas Fair on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5pm-8pm.**

**Come and join the festive fun!**

Father Christmas & Grotto/ Crafts/ Elfridges/ Raffle/ Hook a Duck/ Toilet Toss/  
Wine or Water & more/ Chocolate/ Tuck Shop/ Tombola/ Rehome a Teddy.



**The Edington Arts Advent Concert.**

Online booking is open for Arts Advent Concert in the Priory Church at 7.30pm on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December** By clicking the 'Book Tickets' button on the website ([www.edingtonarts.org](http://www.edingtonarts.org)) you can choose and pay for your seats. Or you can still use the telephone Box Office at 01380 831256.

The choir of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, is a mixed voice ensemble of choral and music scholars, and they have put together a lovely programme of music not only from Advent, but also of beautiful music for Christmas.

2024 will be Edington Arts' tenth season, and to celebrate they have programmed a really high-profile season of events. The first is on March 23<sup>rd</sup> during Lent, and full information is in the new leaflet which will be launched at the Advent concert on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Online booking for this will open for Angels on January 7<sup>th</sup>, and for the general mailing list on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Devizes Flower Club**



We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, upstairs in  
Devizes Town Hall, SN10 1BN Doors open at  
7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Contact us: [devizesflowerclubuk@gmail.com](mailto:devizesflowerclubuk@gmail.com)

Facebook: @Devizes FlowerClub

Instagram: devizes\_flowerclub

Visitors £6 on the door. Annual Subscription Membership £35.

### **NEW YEARS DAY WALK**

Start 2024 with the now traditional village walk followed by home-made soup and other snacks in the Community Centre. Watch out for details on Facebook, the CC website and posters nearer the time.



### **HELPING HANDS NEEDED IN JULIA'S HOUSE CHARITY SHOPS**

Are you looking to get out and about and make some new friends? Would you like to support your local community? Are you seeking a fun and busy work experience placement?

Volunteers are being called on to join the Julia's House team and help out at the local charity's high street shops across Wiltshire.

[Julia's House](#) is Wiltshire's children's hospice, looking after the most seriously ill children and their families in the local community and at the charity's hospice building in Devizes.

The charity relies almost entirely on donations to provide its vital care, so the funds raised by its shops make a huge difference – and it's only thanks to the charity's team of volunteers that the doors can stay open and welcome shoppers regularly throughout the week.

Helping hands are needed on the tills and behind the scenes, sorting donations in many of the charity's shops, including Chippenham, Devizes, Salisbury, and Warminster.

Liz Thompson, Volunteer Co-ordinator for Julia's House, said, "We're lucky to have an incredible team of volunteers of all ages, and we're looking for more people to join us. Volunteering has lots of benefits, from building confidence and gaining work experience, to making friends and having fun. It's also a great feeling to be supporting your local community and your help will make all the difference to the seriously ill children and families we care for locally."

She added, "There are lots of volunteering roles and new ones coming up all the time, so we'd love to hear from anyone who has a few hours to spare. And you don't have to have experience to be a volunteer at Julia's House, as we provide all the training you'll require."

If you are interested or would like more information, please pop into one of the Julia's House shops, or get in touch with the Julia's House volunteer team at [volunteer@juliashouse.org](mailto:volunteer@juliashouse.org) or 01202 644220.

You can also find out more at [www.juliashouse.org/volunteering](http://www.juliashouse.org/volunteering)





## CHRISTMAS TREES

You choose then we cut.

Saturdays and Sundays 9th & 10th December  
and 16th & 17<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 am - 4 p.m

Norway Spruce £25 any size Nordmann £35 any size

Marsh Farm Seend Road  
Worton 01380 828214



## Moors Wood Farm Christmas Trees

Sustainable, home-grown trees grown in the heart of Bromham!

33 Durlitt, Bromham SN15 2HY Tel: 07809 425670

*Nordman Fir – highly needle retentive*

Come and mark your tree in advance  
and put down a deposit ready for Christmas  
Also hand-made wreaths and decorations

Do have a look at this month's edition of the online colour supplement for pictures.  
Go to [Seend.org.uk](http://Seend.org.uk) and just click on Spotlight and then on December / January-  
online colour supplement – available shortly

*And finally .....*

**Where does Santa stay when he goes on holiday? At a ho-ho-ho-hotel**

What's another name for an artificial Christmas tree? Faux fir

**What do you call a snowman with a six-pack? The abdominal snowman.**

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck? A Christmas Quacker.



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

**Church:** Rector— vacant. Assoc. Priest Rev. Caroline O'Neil 828302 (p/t)  
Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, 828557.  
Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513; Bulkington: Mrs Liz Futter 828485, Mike Rose 01249 248516; LPAs: Liz Futter 828485, Len Murray 828513, Sue Noad 870343, Sue Rose 01249 248516, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139. Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.

**Irene Usher Pavilion** bookings – [www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html](http://www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html) or 828970

**Bulkington Village Hall** - Roger and Liz Futter 828485

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

**Bulkington Parish Council**—[theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:tara.shannon@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

**Police Community Support**—Sargent Gemma Rutter. email: [gemma.rutter@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:gemma.rutter@wiltshire.police.uk)

**100+Club Draw**-Alison Bottomley -  
[avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk)

**Book Clubs** - the original: June May  
827169 / 07590 818750 - the other:  
Frank Teasdale 07719 918310

**Cricket Club** - Brian Hunt 828581

**Fawlty Players Panto Group** - Tessa Doe  
07719 917814 &

Seend Village Pantomime on fb

**Fete**-see Lye Field

**Flower Show** -Julia White 01380 827082

**Football** -Jake Sainsbury

**FoSS** - [friendsofseendschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofseendschool@gmail.com)

**Historic Houses Club** - Mary Warren 01380  
828076 or Neil Yockney 827139

**LINK Scheme** - 075320 55560

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

**Neighbourhood Watch** -

Seend - Brian Hunt 828581

Sells Green - Cavan Moroney 828606

Seend Cleeve - Owen Burton 828820

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

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

**Poetry Group** - Tessa Doe 07719 917814

**Ramblers** - Sandy James 01380 739235

**Royal British Legion** -

Sec: Dave Beaumont 07538 651712

Welfare: Christine O'Reilly 07791 157060 /  
01380 828888

**Seend Baby & Toddler Group** - Eleanor  
Braney 07947 867701

[SeendBabyandToddlers@gmail.com](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** - [seendtennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:seendtennisclub@gmail.com)

**Theatre Club** - Ken Harvey 828511,  
membership - [seendtheatreclub@gmail.com](mailto:seendtheatreclub@gmail.com)

**WEA/Day Schools** -Tessa Doe 07719  
917814

**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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## **Opening hours:**

### **Shop and Cafe:**

09.00 - 17.00 **Monday to Friday**  
(except **Wednesdays** 14.00 close)  
**Saturday** 9.00—15.30  
**Sunday** Closed

### **PO:**

09.00—17.00 **Monday to Friday**  
(except **Wednesdays** 14.00 close)  
  
Closed **Saturday and Sunday**

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

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