

SPOTLIGHT

Seend & Bulkington

Summer Saturday Breakfasts

Freshly cooked and served by volunteers



**29th July, 5th, 19th and 26th August
and 2nd September
from 8am-10.30am
in Seend Community Centre**

Proceeds to:



AT THE HEART OF
OUR COMMUNITY

July 2023

DIARY DATES FOR LATE JUNE

28th Nosh & Natter lunch club, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30pm

28th Quiz Night, Brewery Inn

DIARY DATES FOR JULY

1st Afternoon Tea in Bulkington Village Hall, 3-5pm

1st Dog show at the Brewery Inn

5th Salisbury Shuttle shopping trip

5th Bulkington Village Lunch, Well Inn, 12.30pm

7th First Friday Coffee Morning, Community Centre, 10.30am

10th Bulkington Tea, Craft and Chat, 2-4pm

16th Seend Ramblers Ramble

16th Singing Herdsman entertains in Brewery Garden, from 3pm

17th Mobile Library: 9.40am Seend The Lye; 10.05am Seend Cleeve phone box;
11am Bulkington The Well Inn Car Park

18th Melksham Flower Club, Community Centre, 2pm

19th Seend WI Craft and Chat, Pavilion, 2-4pm

21st School's Out BBQ, Community Centre, 6pm

26th Quiz Night, Brewery Inn

29th First 2023 Summer Saturday Breakfast, 8-10.30am

29th Bulkington Ladies Group

29th Evening of Mediumship, Community Centre, 7.30pm

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12th August – Seend Fete and Flower Show

15th September – Dancing to ‘the Pop Pickers’

28th October – Oktobeerfest, Seend Community Centre

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



**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



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 JULY 2023 SPOTLIGHT

A wonderful weekend of Open Gardens to look back on, Seend Fete and Flower Show to look forward to and prepare for and the famous Breakfasts starting at the end of this month: what a summer! Once again we have to thank all the volunteers who make these things happen and encourage more people to join them.



Potential advertisers: Chris will be giving details of the next round of advertising dates and fees in next months' issue, so be ready for an August deadline.

Spotlight Contacts: Contributions for the August/September 2023 edition (copy by Saturday 15th July) can be emailed to 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 acknowledgment 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 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) or writing to her at 34 Seend Cleeve, Melksham SN12 6PY.

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

SEEND EVENTS IN JULY AND BEYOND



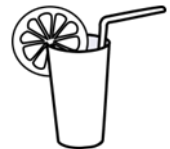
AT THE HEART OF
OUR COMMUNITY

EVENTS IN SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING on the 7th July 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.



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 has returned! First Friday date is 7th July.



SUMMER BBQs – ALL WELCOME! Friends of Seend School (FOSS) are hosting a “Schools Out for Summer” BBQ Friday 21st July from 6pm and a “Hurrah they are back at School” BBQ Friday 1st September from 6pm.



SEEND SUMMER BREAKFASTS: The famous Seend Breakfasts will be held on Saturdays on the following dates: 29th July, 5th August, 19th August, 26th August, and 2nd September from 8-10.30am.

“AN EVENING OF MEDIUMSHIP” with Mitch Garlington on Saturday 29th July. Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start. Tickets £12.50. To purchase tickets please visit www.mitch-garlington.co.uk



NOSH & NATTER LUNCHEs: Nosh and Natter is on a summer break. It will recommence on Wednesday 27th September.

Please book in advance for lunch 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!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Royal British Legion Seend Branch present an evening with THE POP PICKERS on Friday 15th September at 7:30pm. The Pop Pickers cover classic hits from 50s, 60s and 70s. Tickets are £13.00 and are available from Robin Heatley (telephone 01380 828491), Seend Community Centre or Devizes Books

“Female of the Species” Band playing on Saturday 21st October 7pm. Details to follow.

Oktoberfest will be on Saturday 28th October at 7pm. Details to follow.



Seend WI Craft and Chatter Group

Bring your own choice of craft to the Pavilion

19th July 2pm-4pm

Come for tea and cake.

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

Contact Joyce Harvey 01380 828511



BREWERY INN EVENTS

Wednesday Quiz Nights — June 28th and 26th July

Dog Show – Saturday 1st July

Singing Herdsman in the garden – Sunday 16th July from 3pm

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.)

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MEHARG

Many Seend residents will have been saddened by David's death on 19th May. He was well known for his sporting prowess while living in the village, particularly at cricket and tennis. For a number of years David was a very popular and effective member of the now defunct Seend Cricket Club, and always played the game in a very sporting manner. He was also a very talented tennis player. His popularity was very evident at a packed West Wilts Crematorium on 30th May, and afterwards on a beautiful 'cricket afternoon' at the Lye Field, where he spent many happy hours playing cricket and tennis.

Farewell David, it was a pleasure for all of us to have known you and enjoyed your company.

Brian Hunt

OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Massive thank you to everyone who baked for this event and donated cakes.

We were very well supported and the cakes were much enjoyed by our visitors.

We clearly have some fantastic bakers in the village - maybe we should hold our own 'bake off'!

REMINDER FOR DOG WALKERS

Please would dog walkers remember that dogs must be kept on a lead in Seend churchyard at all times – and please clean up after your dog. Thank you.

SEEND NOSH AND NATTER is taking a break for July and August and we will be back at the Community Centre in September.

Thank you to all who have supported us over the last 14 years, we all have had great times cooking for you and we are looking forward to the beginning of our 15th year with all your favourites and some new ones too.

THANK YOU

I would like to say thank you very much to Jenny, Tom and the Committee for the lovely card and gifts I was presented with at the Community Centre on Friday 9th June. I enjoyed cleaning there for the past 29 years and 5 months.
(I originally took the job on for a couple of years.)

Rose Dick

AND A THANK YOU IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION: We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the wonderful Rose Dick who has finally decided to hang up her duster and mop and take a step back from her duties to enjoy a better work life balance.

The lovely Rose has been secretly letting herself into Seend Community Centre in the very early hours of the morning (whilst most of us are still in bed) to make sure the building is cleaned for all of the community to enjoy. Not only this, but Rose had been doing this for almost three decades! How amazing is that!! So THANK YOU to Rose for all of her hard work and dedication over the years and we all wish her every happiness.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 14TH - 20TH 2023 - REPORT

This year £ 1,044.59 was collected in Seend and Bulkington. Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously. Thanks also to everyone who was able to Gift Aid their contributions. Christian Aid will claim a further £162 on all of the gift aided contributions, increasing the total amount from the Christian Aid Week in our villages to over £1,291. Particular thanks to the collectors who generously give of their time each year, most of whom have volunteered before and most for a number of years, usually on the same rounds making it a more familiar and sociable exercise for everyone involved. Thanks especially to Liz for once again organising and doing most of the collecting in Bulkington, Special thanks also to Jenny and David who joined the collecting team for the first time this year.

Spotlight, as always, gave us a flying start in terms of informing everyone and inserting 720 envelopes into the magazine. It makes it so much easier for contributors to prepare in advance, especially completing the Gift Aid slip, whilst those on holiday in Christian Aid week can return their envelopes before departure or on their return.

The collection was £200 down on 2022 which in turn was £200 less 2021 - our best year so far. The continued rise in the cost of living no doubt partly explains some of the downturn. Increasingly, however, people do not use cash and card readers are not really practical for an event of this type, especially this year more parishioners were out when collectors called. Some promised to hand in envelopes to one of the collectors or to Post and Provisions. A few were able to do so, but most were not. Nevertheless, a large number of people contributed generously and whilst house to house collections seem to be no longer viable in parts of the country this is not the case in rural areas where the community is strong, like Seend and Bulkington, with nearly £1,300 raised for those facing considerable hardship in poorer parts of the world. We can look forward with confidence to participating in the next Christian Aid Week from May 12th to May 18th 2024.

Dick Church Local organiser

SEEND FETE 12TH AUGUST



FREE BREAKFAST!

We will be serving a free breakfast to all volunteers from 8:00 am on Fete day. Please come along and enjoy the team spirit as we prepare the field for the Fete. Young or old, all are welcome.

HELP NEEDED!

If you can spare an hour or so on fete day to help run a stall to give someone a break, please contact me.

WHITE ELEPHANT STALL

This stall has always been popular. If you have any unwanted Christmas or birthday presents or are having a clear out, please bring anything along to the pavilion on Monday 7th to Friday 11th August 6pm to 8pm. If you can't make these hours, or have difficulty getting to the pavilion, please phone 828970. We also need old books and toys. We are happy to accept any clean item, no toilet brushes please!

BOTTLE STALL

We will be collecting bottles for the Bottle Stall during fete week. Please look out anything you know you are not going to drink. Anything and everything accepted.

TOMBOLA and GRAND DRAW

We are still looking for prizes for these stalls. If you have any goods or services you can offer, please let me know.

We look forward to seeing everybody on August 12th.

Rich 07702 868 863 seendnews@gmail.com

SEEND FLOWER SHOW



The Seend Flower Show will be held on **Saturday the 12th August 2023** in the Community Centre. Doors open for viewing at 1pm. We welcome entries from gardeners, bakers, crafters and artists. This year we are including new categories such as Terrariums, Speciality Breads and Model Making (wood, metal and 3D printed).

We are also appealing for volunteers on the day, please let us know if you would like to be involved. Call Julia on 01380 827082 or contact a committee member. We would also welcome sponsors, donations and advertisers, please contact us should you wish to contribute.

All cup holders from last year (2022) please return your cups by the 30 June to John Williams at Canty Neuk, High Street, Seend (828965) or Julia at 8 Weavers Cottages (827082). We are also happy to come and collect them.

The Flower Show Entries Schedule and Programme will accompany August's Spotlight. You can also download the entry form from our website:

<https://seendflowershow.org.uk> .

All queries: seendflowershowentry@gmail.com. Entry forms can be downloaded from the website: www.seendflowershow.org.uk. scanned and returned or dropped off at Number 2, High Street, Seend. **Julia White SFS Chair**+44 7904791743

CHURCH NEWS

The view from my window.



Aren't we lucky? Walking round Seend's open gardens one can only stand back and say "Wow", and then returning to my own garden, once again I say Wow. Yes it's full of so-called weeds; cow parsley rising from the stream like champagne, little purple flowers all over my gravel, both of which in previous years I would have been at pains to remove, but thanks to all the public requests for a "no mow May" I can really appreciate both the flora and fauna in my garden without feeling guilty. Have you all been to see the tulip tree in the churchyard? Its phenomenal. I've never seen it in flower before; perfect little tulips all over it.

Just recently we held our discussion group, called the Buzz in a beautiful garden down by the river, and we sat under a great oak tree and at first we listened to the buzz of all the insects and then we listened to Vaughan Williams' Lark Ascending, the beginning of which is just a quiet hum/ buzz, brilliantly composed to imitate the insects of a June day. We listened and we wondered. .

It's something we can all do, wonder at the marvels of nature and our planet, and I'm sure like me your hearts have been uplifted by so many beautiful natural things. I think that uplifting is another way of saying thank you; thank you to God not necessarily with words but with feelings. I don't know how you define God; most people can't define God at all, and I am one of those. Different faiths have different names for God, but what I believe and feel is that there is one Almighty creator, and if heaven is like a garden with a beautiful tulip tree in the middle, well that's good enough for me, and I believe that one day, I will be forgiven for all my misdoings and I will be free and fly like a bird to be there.

If your heart is full of wonder and thankfulness, why not pop into one of the churches, not necessarily on a Sunday, and look around and see if you can feel the footprints of so many thousands who have walked that way before; people who have given thanks to Almighty God who has been with them through thick and thin, throughout the ages as he/she is with all of us today, and add your thanks. .

And I would also like to say thank you too, for all those people who have opened their gardens, and helped in whatever way to make the Open Gardens weekend such a success the money from which will go towards our beautiful historic churches.

Jane Knowles

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:

Baptisms: Edward Saye at Holy Cross, Seend on 28th May.

Weddings: Francesca Hateley and John Griffin, Christ Church, Bulkington on 27th May.

Funerals: Betty Smith at Holy Cross, Seend on 9th May.

CHURCH SERVICES IN JULY 2023

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



Sunday 2nd (Trinity 4)

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

Sunday 9th (Trinity 5)

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

Sunday 16th (Trinity 6)

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

Sunday 23rd (Trinity 7)

9:30am	Morning Praise	Worton
11am	Holy Communion	Potterne
11am	Holy Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong	Poulshot
6pm	Holy Communion	Bulkington

Wednesday 26th

5pm	Celtic Meditative Service	Poulshot
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Sunday 30th (Trinity 8)

10am	Benefice Service	Seend
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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.

BULKINGTON NEWS

AFTERNOON TEA

Please come and enjoy Traditional Afternoon Tea on Saturday 1st July from 3pm – 5pm in Bulkington Village Hall. Entrance £6 which can be paid at the door. Proceeds will be shared between Bulkington Church and the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. There will be a raffle.

Thank you. Liz Futter 828485



The Bulkington Village Lunch

takes place on

Wednesday, 5th July at 12.15 for 12.30 at The Well.

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

New people are always welcome to join us. It is a good social event for the entire village and area.

THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP

will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 10th July
at 4 Northfields,

the home of Rev. Maureen Allchin.

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 17th July 11.05-11.30 am.

BULKINGTON LADIES' GROUP.

The Ladies Group will meet at 7.30 pm on Thurs 29th July at The Barge Inn, Seend-Cleeve for a drink and a walk by the canal if the weather allows! Cars will leave Bulkington at 7.15 pm if you would like a lift.

BULKINGTON "100 CLUB"

We held the draw at the Village Lunch in The Well on Wednesday, 7th June, and the winners were :-

£30	No. 27	John Scott
£25	No. 61	Peter Wyatt
£20	No. 33	Karen Lock
£15	No. 64	Sian Stables
£15	No. 17	Gavin Yarde
£10	No. 69	Sue Noad
£10	No. 53	John Breach

Congratulations to the winners!

Phyl Yarde



Annual Parish Meeting – Draft Minutes

PENDING OFFICAL APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING



Held Wednesday the 18th of May 2022 at 7.30pm in the Bulkington Village Hall

Councillors: Amy Powell (Chair), Julie Anderson-Hill, Alison Howard-Evans, Andrew Grabham

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Alex Breach, Carla Haslam apologies accepted
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 18th of May 2022:** approved
- 3. Chairman's report:** The Acting Chair Amy delivered her report. All agreed that the Community Levy funds will be spent on lowering pavements through LHFIFG.
- 4. Questions and Comments from Local Government Electors -** None received
- 5. Vote for new Chair and Vice Chair: Vote for new Chair and Vice Chair:**
After 4 years of service for the village Amy Powell resigned as Chair but will continue as a Councillor. There were no volunteers from other Governors to take on the long term role as Chair. Andrew kindly agreed to operate as chair until end of June so the team has some time to arrange what happens next. The team thanks Amy for her dedication and time and all she has done for the village.

Unanimous vote for Andrew Grabham as Vice Chair and Interim Chair.

Andrew was proposed by Julie and seconded by Alison.

Bulkington Parish Council is now urgently seeking a volunteer to join the Parish Council team as Chair. With no chair, the Team will need to take turns sitting as acting chair each month to ensure the Parish Council can continue to do it's work looking after the village of Bulkington, managing it's finances and looking after it's assets.

6. Approval of updated Governance Documents:

The update of Governance Documents were discussed

The Parish Council Meetings always fall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month:

June 21st July 19th August: No Meeting, September 20th October 18th
November 15th December 20th January 17th February 21st March 20th April 17th
May 15th

Chairperson's Report May 2022 – May 2023

Your Parish Council team members are Hannah Becket – The Parish Clerk

Parish Councillors: Amy Powell, Andrew Grabham, Alex Breach, Carla Haslam, Julie Anderson-Hill, Alison Howard-Evans, there is currently a vacancy for a new councillor as Chairperson to join, you would be most welcome.

With that I'd personally like to thank the support I have received from ALL the current Councillors and the Parish Clerk, Hannah. With the support of the Councillors and Hannah we have managed to maintain the services, achieve some of our goals, and here are some of our highlights for this year.

- The Zipwire in the recreational ground failed the annual safety inspection and has now received new cross bars and the cableway tightened making it safe for children to play.
- The unsafe group swing has been removed as there were splits in the A frame which failed a safety inspection.
- The wooden bridge has had some maintenance work started and local man Jonathan Difford will be making a full repair now the drier weather has set in.
- The grass cutting contract has now been taken up by a local man Mark Goddard who maintains several parish grass areas across several local villages.
- Work is being started in the Recreational Ground to improve accessibility for all and create a welcoming pergola area where the current old wooden trim trail is. The trim trail is no longer safe and will be replaced when funding is secured.
- Agreement with the highways agency to drop kerbs in the village making wheelchair and push chair access easier where it is currently difficult.
- Some villagers gathered on the spring tidy up and went out litter picking before the hedges started sprouting, thank you to all who helped.
- The book bus stop continues to be a roaring success with locals however we do request that people keep the area tidy as Hannah frequently removes untidy books and disposes of them when necessary.

The Parish Council Team has had another stable year with its councillors which has been lovely to really form a good team bond and work out where skills and support lie in the team. We have been able to progress with lots of smaller things this year, probably some things that you'll not even notice, but if it wasn't for the fantastic team we have looking after our village assets; our village would slowly suffer from disrepair and untidiness.

The Parish Council team remains focused on making the village accessible and maintained to a reasonable standard for all who reside here. With the help of a report from Maureen Allchin we have been able to work with Wiltshire Council on a couple of projects which will make the village more accessible to those with mobility needs and focus on making it safe for all to use the pavements from one end of the village to another. Our Clerk has been working hard behind the scenes, attending various Wiltshire Council meetings and working with the local authorities projects to make our village a safe place for all.

Despite best efforts there has been little interest for any events arranged or considered by the Parish Council. Therefore, the Parish Council will focus on maintaining the assets we have direct responsibility for, such as the upkeep of the war memorial, cutting the parish owned areas of grass and hedges and ensuring the rubbish bins on the footpaths remained emptied regularly. The Recreational Ground Committee, who works closely with the Parish Council, will continue to pursue the upkeep and improvements to the Recreational Ground; ensuring the space can be enjoyed by all.

To note, the Parish Council Team and various members of the village have been contacted several times about the inscription on the War Memorial for serviceman LIEUT. R.S. GAISFORD. A family member, Mr Rob Gaisford, has been in touch insisting the Parish Council should correct the incorrectly ranked family member.

R.S. GAISFORD was promoted to Captain a couple of weeks before he died, and the rank was inscribed incorrectly when the plaque was first installed. Mr Rob Gaisford is insistent that when the stone was refurbished after 2006 the rank of his late family member was changed. This is incorrect and the rank has always stated LIEUT. The Government website confirms we have a duty of care for the upkeep of memorial itself, but we have no duty to make corrections to any inscription. Despite confirming this to Mr Rob Gaisford and letting him know that we do not have the finances to support his desire to change this, or the resources to progress this on his behalf. We have suggested if he can pursue fund raising and dealing with the necessary enquiries and quotations for the work, he is welcome to pursue his intentions to make the inscription change. The Parish Council are taking his request very seriously, and have spent a significant amount of the precept in communication with him about this matter. If residents are contacted by him directly or indirectly on this matter, please refer the matter to the Chairperson who will coordinate any further correspondence with Mr Rob Gaisford.

Financial

At the time of writing, the Parish Council's accounts for 2022/2023 can be reported as per the website: [Meeting Minutes](#) | [Bulkington Village Community Website](#)

Wiltshire Council

Tamara Reay as our Devizes Rural West Councillor is often in attendance to our monthly meetings; she always brings with her a wealth of updates from the Council as well as being proactive in taken on actions and escalations where we need support.

MyWilts App – We remind residents that they can report any countryside defects, fly tipping, pot-holes byway uses etc... to MyWilts App

Wiltshire Police

The Parish Council receives regular updates form Wiltshire Police on localised issues and they welcome hearing from residents on any concerns.

We look forward to improving our village assets over the coming 12 months and working closely with our community to make improvements where we can. We welcome you all to attend our meetings, every 3rd Wednesday of the month to come and find out more about what we get up to and how you can get involved.

Thank you for your continued support
Amy

Monthly Parish Meeting – Draft Minutes
PENDING OFFICIAL APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING
Held Wednesday the 17th of May 2023 at 7.30pm in the
Bulkington Village Hall.



Councillors: Andrew Grabham (Acting Chair), Amy Powell,

Alison Howard-Evans and Julie Anderson-Hill

1 Apologies for absence: Alex Breach, Carla Haslam apologies accepted

2 To Record: Changes to the Register of Interests

Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items

3 To Receive a report from Tamara Reay: Tamara send the following updates to the Councillors ahead of the meeting as she was unable to join on the day:

Some of the highlights from Wiltshire Council, and my own work over the last year to support residents in Devizes Rural West are below.

Wiltshire Council's budget for 2023/24, which is underpinned by the council's 10-year Business Plan, is £466m – this includes an additional £69m to cover inflation and increased demand for services and is broken down as follows:

- Whole life pathway (mental health, autism spectrum conditions and learning disabilities support services) - £96m, an increase of £11m
- Living and aging well (adult care) - £83m, an increase of £15m
- Families and children - £63m, an increase of £2m
- Environment (which includes waste and recycling services) - £48m, an increase of £4m
- Highways and transport - £41m, an increase of £3m
- Education and skills - £29m, an increase of £6m

Last November, Wiltshire Council invited the Local Government Association to carry out a Corporate Peer Challenge – the review found that the council's Business Plan provides a clear set of objectives and that focus on improving outcomes for some of the most vulnerable in the community is none more evident than in children's services. It was also noted that the council is excelling in work to address climate change.

In addition to funding of £22.9m from the Government's Highways Maintenance Fund, £3.6m was received from the Department for Transport's Pothole Fund which will be used to target pothole hotspots around the county. Anyone who spots a highways issue must report it using the MyWilts app or via the website – and if it doesn't get fixed, please email me at tamara.reay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Wiltshire has welcomed 1,374 guests so far and is one of the top authorities in England for taking in Ukraine nationals - 165 families have now moved into private rented accommodation and every Ukrainian household has a named Case Worker assigned to support the guests to help them integrate into the community. More information is at [Wiltshire stands with Ukraine - Wiltshire Council](#).

Over the last three years I have led the project for a new rail station to serve Devizes and secured almost £500,000 from the Department for Transport for business case assessment. The Interim Feasibility Study undertaken over the last few months has now reported and shows that whilst there isn't a current rail service which could stop at Devizes Gateway without affecting the rest of the rail network. Network Rail has concluded that there may be opportunities for a new train

service and station following a broader Wiltshire Wide Rail Review. This is really good news - Devizes is very much at the heart of future rail developments in Wiltshire and along with Danny Kruger MP, and other local organisations such as the Devizes Development Partnership, I will continue to push the case for Devizes Gateway. The detailed Interim Feasibility Study is online at [Findings of Devizes station feasibility study released - Wiltshire Council](#)

It has been a pleasure to support Parish Councils, community groups and residents with a whole host of local issues over the last year including flooding, road safety, footpaths and planning matters. If there is a local issue that you are concerned about, please do get in touch and I will do my very best to help.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the Parish Councils across Devizes Rural West – they and the many other local organisations help ensure our villages are such fabulous communities and brilliant places to live.

Local Police Report: No new updates

5 Open Forum:

- **Woodland Creation Funding Offer:** A villager made councillors aware of England's Community Forests grant scheme for tree planting. The boundary has just been extended so it now includes Bulkington amongst other parishes in the area. The benefit of this enables parishes to access the Trees for Climate woodland creation grant. Please see link... [Trees for Climate — England's Community Forests \(englandscommunityforests.org.uk\)](#). This provides 100% funding for all plants, materials and labour (and in some cases the purchase of land) plus 15 years maintenance payment. The main caveat is that the overall planting is a minimum of 1 hectare. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council does not have the necessary for this but wanted to inform villagers in case anyone is interested.

- **Poo bag signs:** A villager has kindly donated some dog poo bags for use around the village. These have been hung out in areas used frequently by dog walkers. The Parish Council would like to remind all dog owners that all dog owners have a legal duty to clean up their animal's faeces immediately after it fouls in certain public areas. It is a dirty eyesore on pavements and in public areas and on farmers' fields diseases found in **dog poo** can cause abortions in cattle and death in sheep.

6 Local Planning Updates:

Councillors in support of the planned works as this helps maintain the existing village building:

Application No: PL/2023/03052

Application Type: Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)

Proposal: Demolition of a single storey rear extension and proposed new two storey rear extension. New replacement courtyard roof and wall and internal alterations.

Site Address: Manor Farm, Bulkington, SN10 1SL

7 Minute Approval: The Minutes of the April Parish Council meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting.

8 Finance

Clerk February	£325	Extra hours ref War Memorial*	10 x hours at £12.50
Grass cutting	£228	hourly rate	
Bike Rack	£91.99	Insurance renewal	£280.43
Ink	£17.85 + 22.40	Data Protection Fee (ICO)	£35

Parish Council funds total in account £ 14,091.70

The AGAR Forms were approved and signed by the Clerk and Chair

9 Newsletter: Summer Newsletter distributed by councillors

10 Recreational Ground:

Update: Pathway and Pergola works to commence 26th of June 2023. **Please note that the Rec. Ground will need to be closed for the duration of the works to keep children safe.** This work will involve the removal of the swing and the trim trail. This equipment has not passed the safety tests for some time and needs to be removed for the children's safety. The new path and pergola will significantly improve access to the Rec. Ground for all.

The Trim trail was installed before the Queen's Golden Jubilee (which was in 2002) and the swings and several other items were salvaged and second hand at this time also. Furthermore, most of this equipment has wooden stakes in the ground to support the equipment, due to the wetness of the field, these are decaying and declining fast.

Work will commence on fixing the wooden bridge once the weather is drier, costs are approved and the work is booked.

The Rec. Committee have submitted an Area Board Grant application for £3K to replace some of the equipment being removed in the June works. If the application is successful; the £3k will be added to the existing £2.5k the rec. committee have in the account and will be used for replacing the removed trim trail with new, safe equipment. Swings are significantly more expensive and some fundraising will be required before this can be purchased. Any volunteers for fundraising please contact Carla Haslam or our Clerk Hannah with any ideas.

Both the Oak Bloke works and the equipment replacement works mentioned above will be funded through Rec. Ground funds and grants.

11 Parish Steward: Outstanding jobs to be sent to The Clerk prior to next visit.

Wiltshire Council have swept the roads in Bulkington and cleared some of the verges, significantly widening the road in places to create more space for traffic, following a request by councillors and a meeting with councilors and the Clerk. Many thanks to Matt Perrott and his team.

12 Summer party: Bulkington celebrated the King's Coronation on the 13th of May, many thanks for all who attended and helped with the organizing.

13 Best Kept Village Competition: Bulkington has been entered into the competition and will be judged anytime from the 15th of May until the 13th June. This is a great opportunity to tidy hedges, cut grass and make the village as nice as possible.

14 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: 21st June 2023 at 7.30pm

*An ongoing request by an individual about a detail on the War Memorial since De-

SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS



SEEND WI

For our June meeting we headed to Marlborough for a visit to The Merchants House. We were taken on a guided tour of this amazing building. Our guide spoke enthusiastically about all the work that has been going on over the years to preserve and restore this historic house in the middle of Marlborough High Street. We were impressed by the enthusiasm of the many trust volunteers who give up so much of their time to maintain this historic building. After the tour we were able to spend some time in the beautiful town of Marlborough before heading home. A huge thank you to Neil Yockney our Shuttle driver!

At our July meeting Jan Field will be giving us a talk and display on Morris dancing. Craft and Chatter Group will be on 19th July 2pm to 4pm. Bring your own craft or just pop in for cake and a chat.

If you are not currently a member of Seend WI but are interested in finding out more do contact us and we will be pleased to share our future plans with you.

All regular meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, please contact Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511.

Joyce Harvey

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Many congratulations to Les Welling, one of our Seend RBL Committee members, who received the BEM in the Kings Birthday Honours for his services to the Devizes community.

The Stilwell Cup, won by Seend RBL for the 6th year (4 years shared, the last 2 years outright) for small branch efficiency, is now on display in the Members Bar of the Community Centre.

After an absence of 3 years, The Drumhead Service took place on Sun 25th June on The Lye Field.

Kevin, Chairman Seend RBL, along with Gavin Perry and others, continued their fundraising efforts by cycling along the Kennet & Avon canal on Mon 26 Jun raising money for the Battle Back Centre at Lilleshall.

Dates to Note:

Dancing to The Pop Pickers (50s, 60s, 70s music) – Fri 15 Sep, 7.30pm, Community Centre. £13. (Tickets from Robin Heatley 01380-828491, Community Centre or Devizes Books).

Annual Lecture – Sat 14 Oct, 7.30pm, Community Centre.

Next Meeting and AGM – Tue 17 Oct, 7.30pm, Community Centre.

Event to celebrate the 80th anniversary of D-Day Landings – Sat 8 Jun 24, 7.30pm, Community Centre.

Anita Heatley, RBL/PR

SHUTTLE NEWS Next Salisbury trip 5th of July. Just £5 return for a day out in Salisbury. Departs 9.30am, gets back about 3.15pm. Phone Anita 01380 828757 if you want to come.



May Draw: 1 No.156 C Hawkins £50
 2 No.20 S Bond £25
 3 No.43 L Corcoran £25
 4 No.55 Short mat bowls £15
 5 No.186 S Nichols £15

June Draw: 1 No.176 E Bowles £50
 2 No.173 M Earley £25
 3 No.77 S Vaux £25
 4 No.61 B Powell £15
 5 No.184 T Yockney £15



Thanks to the volunteers at Seend Open Gardens who helped with the draw.
 It's not too late to join, email me for details. avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk

SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Sixteen members battled it out for the top ladies and gents skittles title on Friday 26th May. A thoroughly enjoyable evening with an American supper. Pete won the men's and Wendy and Sandra joint in the ladies. As it was Sandra's birthday the following day, the flowers were hers to enjoy. Thank you to the organisers and I'm sure everyone will be looking forward to the next one.



Walk on Sunday 18th June – Leaders were Anita and Pete who led 16 of us on a lovely walk from Smallgrain plantation Blacklands near Calne. A slightly shorter walk than usual but definitely a good decision as the weather was very warm and muggy. The wild orchids and other wild flowers were beautiful on Morgans Hill which we passed on the circular walk. The views in all directions were stunning and paths walked new to everyone. Thank you to Anita and Pete for a great walk.

Next walk – Sunday 16th July, members will be notified in the usual way.
 Friday 4th August – Evening walk and picnic.

Sandy

SEEND SCHOOL

It's been a very busy start to the summer term in school. It's great to be able to make the most of the beautiful weather with picnic lunches and outdoor lessons. Our year 6 children have been very fortunate to take part in tennis lessons once a week at Seend Tennis club. It has been a great opportunity for the children to be taught by professional coaches and use the great facilities just down the road from us. We have also had a visit from Paralympian, Katrina Hart. The children all worked hard to collect sponsor money and took part in a fitness circuit led by Katrina. It was an incredibly exciting and inspiring afternoon and we look forward to being able to take part again in the future. *(See photos in the online colour supplement on www.seend.org.uk)*



SEEND PLAYGROUP

We welcomed Lenny and Ivy this term and hope they enjoy their time with us.

Our topics this term are people who help us and road safety. We have an outing to Bowood booked for Friday 21st July. Our last day for all children is Monday 24th July. We will have a fun day for the children leaving for school on Tuesday 25th July.

We wish everyone a fun, safe holiday and we return on Friday 1st September.

Rose Dick, Playgroup Leader 828003



SEEND THEATRE CLUB

Our most recent trip has been to The Watermill Theatre, near Newbury to see a play called “The Suspicions of Mr Whicher”. Based on a true story, this told of a Victorian melodrama, with all the hallmarks of a classic murder mystery. In those days the resolution of the crime depended on the clever detective with his uncanny ability to read the human character and an unswerving instinct for the truth! Such an approach inspired a generation of writers such as Wilkie Collins, Charles Dickens and Arthur Conan Doyle. Members appreciated the drama and thought the standard of performance was very good. Our next outing in July is to the lawns of Cleeve House on the evening of Thursday 6th July to see “The Merchant of Venice” performed by Shakespeare Live. As in previous years the gardens will be open for theatregoers to picnic in the grounds from 6 p.m.

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 TENNIS CLUB UPDATE

Just a reminder that it's a new Tennis season, so come and join us on the courts soon. All you need to do is join or renew your membership. The new season runs from 1st April 2023 until 31st March 2024 and full payment is required upon joining/renewing. You must be a member to book the courts (which you do through the web-site). This year's fees are: £40 for adults; £75 for families; £10 for children or students. Contact membershipstclub@gmail.com for any specific queries.

Help still needed: 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!

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

Social games: We have been running a very successful social weekly club, on a Thursday night from now on (currently 3.00- 4.30). Please contact Fiona on 07749 716662 and she will add you to the WhatsApp group.

For all general enquiries, please contact: Seendtennisclub@gmail.com

For membership queries, please contact: memberstclub@gmail.com.

See you on the courts!

SEEND SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS

CRICKET :A Seend Eleven will be hosting the Everdon Cricket Club touring team from Northamptonshire led by Mike Thorpe on Sunday the 9th of July on the Lye Field with tea in the Irene Usher Pavilion and Seend's captain Dan Crossman at the helm.



It is exciting to once again, even if it is only a single match, to have a Seend team out there on Seend's wonderful Lye Field pitch.

Brian Hunt is organising the pitch, scoreboard, stumps and boundary "rope". Hopefully Richard Walker and Sir Mathew Thorpe will be there to take up their traditional roles as umpires.

Any men or women who would like to play on the 9th July please contact me as soon as possible as team spaces are disappearing rapidly.

TENNIS :The season continues to go well for Seend's tennis club with Sally Jackson having now organised tennis sessions for children from Seend school together with coaching sessions for all who are interested.

The mixed doubles continues to do well in the league thanks to the unbeatable pairing of Scout Johnstone and Harry Waylen who are playing some great tennis at the moment. I watched them last Monday against Malmesbury and they were devastating. Tennis coach and Seend resident Jordon Frederick was courtside for that match and I think that he was suitably impressed. On the 19th June they beat Calne 6-2.

Seend's men's team are coming up against stiff opposition in the league this season and, as team captain Liam Bergin put it, it is a case of onwards, but not perhaps upwards, at the moment. On 20th June they beat Frome 6-1.

SHORT MAT BOWLS :I called in to watch the boys' match in the Community Centre on the 12th when Colin explained some of the finer points of the evening to me and I now understand the importance of heating the pot before adding the tea bags. On the pitch Seend beat Melksham and Shaw 5-2 but lost to Marshfield 1-6. Four of the Seend SMB squad were in the Wiltshire team that made it to Melton Mowbray for the recent National Knockout Finals but sadly lost to Cheshire who, somewhat unnervingly and indeed unsportingly, broke the boys' concentration at the crucial moment with a rendition of "Who's been eating all the pies ?" Incidentally Colin tells me that he has a freezer full of the same going cheaply following recent power cuts down his end of the village that have put the stock somewhat at risk.

ATHLETICS :The 41st running of the Bishops Cannings 5000m Dash took place on Saturday 24th June. Seend's Owen Lythel is the current cup holder and he was there to defend his title. Ric Ellinger told me that he would be running provided we can get the paramedics there on time. Stop press: Owen came in a close second.

All news, match reports and general sporting gossip to A&E by 15th July please.

Frankie Goddard,828488

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

March PC meeting

Attendance - 9 Councillors, 4 members of public.

Local Council Matters: Cllr Reay provided the following update:

Changes to Kerbside recycling service from 5 June

From Monday 5 June, Wiltshire Council will be able to collect small rechargeable electrical items as part of our fortnightly recycling service. These items include:

- MP3 players
- Electric toothbrushes
- Shavers/trimmers
- All vapes and e-cigarettes
- Smart watches
- Mobile phones
- Digital cameras
- Charging devices/power banks
- Wireless earphones

All you need to do is to place these items in a carrier bag next to your blue-lidded bin on your next collection date from Monday 5 June onwards. Please don't put any of these items in the bin. The collection has been made possible by making two changes to the materials collected via the kerbside collection service from the same date (5 June). Textiles and shredded paper will no longer be collected for recycling via the kerbside scheme.

Matters Arising

Blossom Hill: Enforcement have acknowledged the Council's concerns and visited the location.

Items for Discussion from Members of the Parish

Seend Tennis Club: The secretary of the Tennis club gave a presentation about the club's need to raise funds to replace the existing court surface, repair the fence and potentially install flood-lighting. The club currently has ~60 paid members who live in Seend and surrounding villages. The club has been working with the school and Lawn Tennis Association to provide summer holiday coaching. The Parish Council to consider what financial support could be provided to the club.

Local Highways & Footpath Infrastructure Group (LHFIG)

Seend Cleeve Northern Extension of 30mph speed limit: The extension of the existing 30mph speed limit needs to be implemented before new residents arrive. Cllr Tamara Reay advised she is liaising with the Head of Wiltshire Highways to expedite this requirement.

Bollands Hill: Concern was raised regarding the road width below the junction with Pelch Lane. LHFIG stated the minimum width for central white lines to be applied was 5.5m. The road width is 4.8m. The Clerk to advise LHFIG of the Council's findings and request that this is included as an Agenda item at the next LHFIG meeting.

The Stocks Advanced Direction Signage (ADS): LHFIG are scheduling the deployment of additional signage. Although a firm date has not been forthcoming, the Parish Council believes the deployment will be completed within the next two months.

Bradley Lane & Rusty Lane: The Clerk advised Wiltshire Council Rights of Way and Countryside Team that their quote to upgrade the surface of Bradley Lane was acceptable and details of the land owners had been provided. It was also proposed that the completion of the surface upgrade to the canal (~130m) could be undertaken at the same time. Cllr Reay to contact Wiltshire Council Rights of Way and Countryside Team and identify the new contact point for the Parish Council.

Roadside Parking adjacent the Barge Bridge & Spout Lane Bridge: CRT has displayed No parking Signs in an attempt to reduce parking in front of the canal entrance at the Barge Bridge. Wiltshire Highways reported the area adjacent to Spout Lane Bridge has been inspected and the edge markings will be refreshed. The work will be programmed when the lining gangs are in the area.

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

Planning Applications The Parish Council raised no objections to the following.
PL/2023/02912 - The Old Stables, High Street, Seend - Rebuild collapsed southern boundary wall between Old Stables and Holy Cross Church.

PL/2023/03647 - Dial Close, Electricity Sub Station, Seend - Rowan Tree, Fell to ground level due to large amount of deadwood and strimmer damage to base.

PL/2023/00020 - Manor Field, High Street, Seend - Construction of new detached garage and detached carport. Retrospective permission for alterations to the height of the existing orangery.

PL/2023/03911 – Cleeve House Trowbridge Road, Seend - T1 Mature Oak - Deadwood Crown and reduce Western limbs overhanging house by 3-4m(to suitable pruning points) to provide sufficient clearance to property.

PL/2023/03779 – Little Thornham Farm, Trowbridge Road, Seend - Proposed Two Glamping Pods.

PL/2023/03778 - Ferrum House, Pelch Lane, Seend Cleeve, Seend, Melksham, SN12 6PZ Proposed Installation of 40 panel ground mounted solar panel system, using GSE mounting kit, within land to south of main house.

Devizes Area Board The next Devizes Area Board meeting will take place on 19th June 2023.

Items of Correspondence

Canal & River Trust (CRT) Dog Waste Bin Removal: The Parish Council was disappointed to learn of the proposal to remove the Dog Waste Bins from the Canal. The Clerk to write to the CRT.

Items for Note

Live streaming of Parish Council meetings: It was agreed that this could be used to facilitate additional coverage of meetings that have significant community impact. (e.g. Melksham Bypass)

30mph Wheelie Bin Stickers: Councillors approved the suggestion to purchase wheelie bin stickers for deployment around the Parish. The Clerk to purchase 100 “30 Please Drive Carefully” stickers.

Finance Bank Reconciliation to end of April 2023, circulated to Councillors, came to: **£42,187.44**

Date of next meeting: 27th June, Parish Council meeting 7pm

Wiltshire Police has faced low points in the last year but it is becoming clear some of the improvements put in place are starting to deliver - and with a new leader at the helm, the Force is in safe, steady, hands.

Chief Constable Catherine Roper's drive and commitment to delivering a quality policing service to Wiltshire residents, which is contributing significantly to Making Wiltshire Safer, has been apparent since she took the role. Communities have been seeing focused operational work to tackle serious violence through increased engagement, highly-visible, and proactive, policing. This is alongside a commitment to attend 100% of residential burglaries. Currently, the Force detection rate for burglaries is 9.7%, which is a significant improvement, but I will always challenge for more.

I know residents want safer roads, safer communities with more police officers – this hasn't been lost on the new Chief. Significant focus has been given to consistent proactive roads policing stop checks, continued speeding enforcement in hotspots across our communities and increased engagement with all communities.

With support being given to our fantastic Community Speed Watch volunteers by the Force's Speed Enforcement Officers, and the work of the Roads Policing Unit, notices of speed awareness courses, fines and court summons have increased from 192 in 2021 to over 2,000 in 2023's first five months.

In addition, the Force recently hit government's officer recruitment targets, achieving the highest number of officers since 2010. It has also introduced a quicker, non-degree, route to get police officers through training in 20 weeks and on to our streets.

Police and Crime Commissioners across the South West have come together to launch a survey to explore how crime is affecting rural communities.

Wiltshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Philip Wilkinson and his counterparts in Dorset, Devon and Cornwall, Avon and Somerset and Gloucestershire are hoping the survey will help them to understand how their county's rural communities are affected by crime.

I'm keen to understand what improvements have been made since the National Rural Crime Network ran a similar survey in 2018, and what we still need to put more resource into. By taking a couple of minutes out of your day to complete this survey you will be helping me to understand how I can continue to make Wiltshire safer.

In Wiltshire, the Rural Crime Team cover all heritage and wildlife crime including theft of livestock and machinery, fly tipping, poaching and hare coursing to name a few. The survey asks rural residents if they have been the victim of any crimes in the last 12 months as well as asking what rural crimes concern them the most.

Also the fifth phase of a regional drugs operation involving all five South West Police and Crime Commissioners was launched again last week.

This time round, the operation will focus on the supply chain by organised crime groups and associated crime, in particular modern slavery (criminal exploitation), human trafficking and organised immigration crime.

To report your concerns or to find out more about the signs of cannabis cultivation please visit [Crimestoppers](#).



NURTURE NATURE

Readers of this column over the years will recall evidence of a steep decline in many of the fauna and flora species of the British Isles. This is of special significance to many of our birds. A current BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) article provides evidence of this decline:

“Using data from generations of volunteer observers as the backdrop to our strategy launch, we revealed staggering losses of some of our most familiar birds since 1970. The results were sobering indeed; almost 30 million house sparrows, 20 million starlings, four million skylarks and two million blackbirds have vanished from our skies since 1970.” To see what that means for your patch, please visit [**data.bto.org/doorstep-birds**](https://data.bto.org/doorstep-birds). All you need to do is enter a postcode to see the local gains and losses. For many of you it is likely to be a sad story.

With ever more habitat loss we should do all we can to provide protection and leave areas of our gardens and green spaces wild enabling birds to flourish, plant hedges and small trees which will also help support the declining bat population. It was encouraging to hear feedback from visitors to Open Gardens, Gardening Clubs and other gatherings that more and more people are doing this and joining in conservation tasks. These efforts will also help the declining insect populations world-wide. There is currently a You Tube discussion on the world's insects with some interesting statistics – e.g. there are four billion hover flies present in the British Isles – why not join in the discussion? Hover insects of all species are fascinating to watch. Changing climate patterns, habitat loss and pollution are negatively affecting pollinators world-wide resulting in an accelerating loss of insects, which is having a knock-on effect on the food chain.

All of us should be encouraging our children to contribute to stopping the decline of flora and fauna locally, nationally and world-wide. Some ideas are how to encourage hedgehogs in the garden (hedgehogs are on the danger list); count and identify bats in your garden – at dusk bats follow tree lines and hedges where insects can be found; encourage children to write a regular wildlife article for submission to a local paper for consideration for publication – if successful, it could become a regular feature. Readers - please forward your ideas to Nurture Nature.

There are still fledglings about, so please be careful when strimming, mowing and clearing foliage. To encourage birds to your gardens, put out live meal worms in containers on bird tables – all birds love this treat and finding it in your garden will boost bird populations. Meal worms are available from most pet shops.

Otis Tarda

KEEVIL CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Last month Keevil welcomed visitors from neighbouring villages, parishes and beyond for the annual scarecrow trail. The event, run by Friends of Keevil School (FOKS), raised around £8,000 for the school.

Keevil School welcomed the Wiltshire Air Ambulance for an Emergency Awareness Training programme. The school children were put through their paces with an interactive training session delivering a range of lifesaving skills. The Wiltshire Air Ambulance aim is to educate the community and provide the children with the knowledge to confidently manage a medical emergency prior to the arrival of an Ambulance. (See photo in online colour supplement)

BITS AND BOBS

NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME

In July, we have the wonderful Horatio's garden in Salisbury who won the coveted Best in Show at the world famous Chelsea Flower Show. Also we have a new garden – Westwind combining in Manton near Marlborough with Peacock Cottage. Full details on www.nhs.org.uk.



Melksham Flower Club

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm in Seend Community Centre.
18th July – In-house DIY flowers

The Arts Society North Wiltshire

We meet in The Assembly Hall in Melksham from 10.30am for coffee followed by a one hour lecture at 11am. July 5th: Eric Ravilious *by David Haycock*

MELKSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY SUMMER CONCERT:

Thursday 6th July 7.30pm at the Rachel Fowler centre.
Some lighter music including Bond Movie theme tunes, songs made popular by Eva Cassidy and Frank Sinatra, American Folk songs and more. No ticket needed but donation of £5 for choir funds much appreciated.



The Pied Piper of Hamelin at their SUMMER CONCERT

Friday 7th July at 7.30 pm

Market Lavington Community Hall SN20 4DG

Jazz cantata, composed by resident accompanist

Tim Price with a live band and soloists.

Supported in the programme by a variety of popular music.

Tickets cost £10 and will be on sale from June 5th at Devizes Books, from any choir member or contact Jean Edwards edwardsjean39@gmail.com

WEST LAVINGTON'S VILLAGE FETE

Saturday July 8th from 2pm on the Village Playing Field.

Attractions include the **Fun Family Dog Show, Amesbury Town Band Show, Children's Games, Bouncy Castle, and Grand Prize Draw** plus lots of stalls homemade teas and a drinks tent. Free entry and parking! Profits from the Fete will be divided between Village charities and organisations nominated by Fete volunteers. Entries for the dog show will be taken at the Fete on the day and cost just £3 per class and there are nine classes. Prizes are generously donated by Rangebourne Pets of Devizes.



THE KING'S MEN COME TO EDINGTON!

We are looking forward to The King's Men coming to Edington on Friday 14th July to give a concert in the Priory Church at 7.30pm. Programme ranges from Byrd (celebrating his 400th anniversary) to arrangements of songs by Michael Bublé. Refreshments available during the interval. Tickets from Susie Hancock – secretary@edingtonfriends.org.uk or 01225 754626. Prices: £20, £15, £10, under 18 free. 10% discount for Friends of the Priory Church. Proceeds from the concert will contribute to The Friends of Edington Priory Church. www.edingtonfriends.org.uk

Edington Music Festival

This year will be the 68th Edington Festival, running from Sunday 20th to Sunday 27th August. More details in next Spotlight. Meanwhile there is lots of information about the festival on the website, www.edingtonfestival.org

Devizes Flower Club

Meets on the third Wednesday of the month upstairs in Devizes Town Hall, 7 for 7.30pm.



FRIENDS OF
ERLESTOKE PRISON

Come and join the Friends of Erlestoke Prison Volunteer Drivers Team. Our volunteer drivers collect families and friends of the prisoners from Westbury Station or Devizes Market Place and drive them to and from the Visitor Centre at HMP Erlestoke to visit their menfolk. We know that prison visits helps with prisoner rehabilitation.

If you feel able to help with this valuable and rewarding work and would like to learn more please: email:

friendstransportscheme@gmail.com or call: 07504 987190. **Thank you!**

Do have a look at this month's edition of the online colour supplement for pictures of the magnificent Seend Open Gardens and more at seend.org.uk
Just click on Spotlight and then on July colour supplement – available shortly

And finally

Dickens' 'Tale of Two Cities' was first serialised in two regional newspapers. It was the Bicester Times and the Worcester Times.

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, Len Murray 828513, Sue Noad 870343, Sue Rose 01249 248516, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139. Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.
Irene Usher Pavilion bookings – www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html or 828970
Bulkington Village Hall - Roger and Liz Futter 828485
Seend Community Centre – To contact please e-mail seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com
Seend Shuttle: Enquiries: seendshuttle@gmail.com or Alison 07951 030491
Seend Parish Council Clerk – 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
 Tel. 01722 547242

100+Club Draw-Alison Bottomley -
avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk
Book Clubs - the original: June May
 827169 / 07590 818750 - the other:
 Frank Teasdale 07719 918310
Cricket Club - Brian Hunt 828581
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
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
Preschool -(Playleader) Rose Dick 828003
Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 828617
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 - seendtennisclub@gmail.com
Theatre Club - Ken Harvey 828511,
 Marion Whitehead 828612
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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