SPOTLIGHT SEEND & BULKINGTON



NOVEMBER 2025

DIARY DATES FOR LATE OCTOBER

- 29th Nosh and Natter Lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30 pm
- 29th Brewery Inn Quiz Night
- 31st Children's Halloween Craft Workshop, Seend CC, 11am- 12 noon

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

- 1st Churchyard tidy up, Holy Cross, Seend, 10am-noonish
- Mobile Library 9.40 am Seend, The Lye. 10.05 am Seend Cleeve Phone Box 11.00 am Bulkington, The Well Inn car park
- 4th Seend Parish Council meeting, Community Centre
- 5th Bulkington Village Lunch, The Well Inn, 12.15 for 12.30pm
- 5th Seend Shuttle to Salisbury
- 7th First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30 am
- 9th Remembrance Day Service, War Memorial and Church, Seend & Bulkington, 10.50 am
- 11th Armistice Day Service, War Memorial Seend, 10.45 am
- 12th Bulkington Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 15th LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTION TO DEC/JAN SPOTLIGHT
- 16th Seend Ramblers
- 20th Seend Community Centre AGM, 7 pm at Community Centre
- 21st Messy Church, Potterne Village Hall, 3.30 pm
- 26th Nosh and Natter Lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12.30 pm
- 26th Brewery Inn Quiz Night
- 29th "What's It All About", Seend Community Centre, 7.30 pm

DIARY DATES FOR EARLY DECEMBER

- 3rd Seend Shuttle to Salisbury fully booked
- 5th First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30 am
- 6th Christmas wreath making, Seend Community Centre, 10am-12.30pm + lunch
- 7th Seend Ramblers Christmas walk with mince pies and mulled wine.



Irene Usher Memorial Pavilion & Seend Lye Field. Available for parties, meetings, sports events.

Book online: www.seendlyefield.org or email: seendlrf@gmail.com

SEEND COMMUNITY LINK SCHEME

Trouble getting out and about? We can help with transport. Link is a team of volunteers who assist residents in the area who are elderly or incapacitated and are unable to use public transport. For more information or to join us as a volunteer driver please get in touch. Telephone 07532 055560 - www.seend.org.uk/seend_link

Newcomer to Seend or Bulkington? Visit www.seend.org.uk, www.seend.org.uk</a

WELCOME TO NOVEMBER 2025 SPOTLIGHT

Places to go, people to see; lots of them in our villages in the coming month. You can take up bell ringing, help form a bridge club, volunteer for lots of things, relive the swinging sixties, take the kids to Messy Church, enjoy various opportunities to eat, drink and be merry and prepare for the festive season. And please do admire the new adverts in the middle of this magazine.

But most importantly, remember on November 11th.

Contributions for the Dec/Jan 2026 edition by Saturday 15th November please.

- Always email to spotlight@seend.org.uk (including photos for the online colour supplement)
- You should get a receipt of your item by the end of the Monday after deadline. If not, you should contact one of the Editors. Who are: Tessa Doe 07719 917814. Sue Isaac 07779 075383. Jan Field 01380 827140
- Send contributions by the deadline
- Use Word documents (or compatible) not PDF or jpg files
- Contact for Advertising is Chris Brooker 01380 828047
- Contact for Deliveries is Fiona Johnson 01380 828401
- Contact for Printing is Jan Field 01380 827140 Potential volunteer deliverers or printers please contact Fiona or Jan

THE SEEND FUND - A REMINDER IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

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

* Rent Payment

* School Trips

* Household fuel

* Vets Bills

*Medical Equipment

* Electrical appliances

* Musical instruments

* Training

*School and work clothes

* Wheelchairs

* Food

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

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

SEEND EVENTS IN NOVEMBER & BEYOND

SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE EVENTS

<u>RUSTY'S CAFE</u> – The Community Centre Café- Lounge - Bar Serving a selection of cakes, sandwiches and all-day breakfasts. Teas, coffees, hot chocolate in addition to the usual range of alcoholic and soft drinks.



Opening Hours

Wednesday 7pm Close Bar Only Food until 5pm **Thursday** 12pm Close Friday 12pm Close Food until 5pm 10:30am – Close Food until 5pm Saturday 10:30am – Close Food until 4pm Sunday

Do come and try it out. Well behaved dogs on a lead are welcome. You don't have to be a Community Centre member to use the cafe.

Community Centre Regular Events

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNINGS on 7th November and 5th December 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 £3.00. Everyone welcome! No need to book.

NOSH & NATTER LUNCHES - The monthly lunch club meets from 12 for 12.30pm on the 26th of November. There will be a raffle to raise funds to cover the cost of the free raffle and glass of wine at the Christmas lunch, so raffle prizes will be very welcome. Two courses and refreshments for £7.50; lovely home-made dishes prepared and served by the excellent N+N team. The Christmas lunch will be held on 17th of December. Please book in advance for either lunch by calling Frank Teasdale on 07719 918310. N.B. Due to rising costs, the price of lunches will rise to £8 from December.

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND DATES FOR THE DIARY

To keep up to date with Community Centre Information visit: seendcommunitycentre.com.

For the Box Office visit: seendcommunitycentre.com/box-office

<u>SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE - ANNUAL MEETING</u> — Come along to our Annual Meeting on Thursday 20th November at 7 pm in the Village Room (upstairs at Seend Centre). Meet the Committee, hear our news and put forward your ideas. We look forward to seeing you then. All welcome.

Saturday 29th November - CILLA & THE SWINGING SIXTIES 7:30pm "WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT" Tickets £12.50

Sandy Smith presents an entertaining night celebrating the life and works of Cilla Black; as well as some of her contemporaries including, Dusty Springfield, Lulu, Petula Clark and the Beatles.

Saturday 6th December CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP with Jane Manning

10am - 12:30pm followed by a festive lunch at Rusty's

Tickets are £40 and include all materials, festive refreshments and lunch.

Please inform us of any dietary requirements and bring a pair of secateurs if you can.

Jane Manning will guide you through making a large luxurious wreath in good company and with festive spirit. Email seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com or visit: www.ticketsource.co.uk/seend-trustcommunity-centre to book your place.

Saturday 13th December FESTIVE BINGO Doors Open 7:30pm for an 8pm start

Always a popular event. Big Prizes and a Raffle.

No need to book – just turn up.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY with Purple Fish 31st December 8pm

Tickets £16.50 plus £1.29 Booking Fee

Seend Centre is the place to be on New Year's Eve with a well-established annual party! To entertain us this year we have the wonderful Purple Fish: Masters of their craft with many stonking New Year's Eve events behind them. Many locals will remember them for performing in a different guise as Mick Jogger & The Stones Experience! This is a party and social evening - please bring your friends, family and party food.

There is no charge for well-behaved and supervised dependent children.

Please contact seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com for table reservations. Please block book where possible. Paper tickets available from the CC or book online

https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/seend-trust-community-centre



BREWERY INN EVENTS

Quiz Night - Wednesday 26th November

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.

CALLING ALL SPORTY TYPES

The Spotlight team wish Frankie Goddard a happy retirement from his role as Sports Reporter. We've all enjoyed reading his – not always wholly serious – reports over the years. Now, is there a sports fan in our villages who enjoys writing and would like to take over from Frankie, in bringing together news from the various sports clubs?

Alternatively, would the different sports organisations be able to send in reports of their activities to spotlight@seend.org.uk in time for each issue? If so, please let us know. Thanks.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING Many thanks to all who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning in September which raised an amazing £938!

DAVID SAWYER

It is with great sadness that the death of David Sawyer is announced. He was 85 years of age and died at Royal United Hospital, Bath, on 18th October after considerable suffering over the past few years.

David, his wife Diana, and daughter Alison moved to Seend in 1979 and upon his retirement from the Wiltshire Constabulary he quickly immersed himself in Seend life in many ways. His prime contribution was as Secretary of the Lye Field Committee for many years. In addition he was also involved in the annual Seend Fete & Flower Show, Seend five-a-side football, Seend School P.T.A, children's cycling proficiency and Seend Shuttle launch. He was also instrumental in the work leading up to the award of the MBE to the late Ron Westacott.

He will be sadly missed and his name will certainly be added to the honours board in the Irene Usher Memorial Hall.

Brian Hunt



POTENTIAL BRIDGE CLUB IN SEEND?

We would like to form a Bridge Club in Seend. Is there anyone interested in joining a friendly and informal club that could possibly meet to play Bridge once or twice a month in the village? If interested please contact: Sally on 07765 86060 or Julia on 0790 4791743.

CHURCHYARD TIDY UP

A massive thanks to everyone who came on October 11th to help tidy the churchyard. We had a great turn out and it looks lovely. The next clear up session will be on Saturday 1st November - again from 10am to 12 noon ish. This time I anticipate we shall be collecting leaves, so please bring appropriate tools. If need be, a further session will be arranged for the 15th November.

Anne Ewing

SEEND CHURCH IS LOOKING FOR NEW BELL RINGERS!

Come and join the ringing band for Monday evening practices and Sunday morning ringing for services. Contact Len Murray (Tower Captain) on 828513 to find out more or email seendringers@outlook.com Scan the QR code for more information, ding dong!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH CLEANING & FLOWER

ARRANGING. If you have some spare time now and then, we'd love help in keeping the church clean and decorated with flowers. If you are interested please contact Anne Ewing (churchwarden).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

It's getting near panto-time again. Oh yes it is! Prepare yourselves for Seend Fawlty Players 46th village pantomime, Cinderella, on 19th, 20th and 21st February next, by practising shouting out 'It's behind you!' and getting your vocal chords ready for the mandatory joining in with the finale song.

<u>HISTORY OF SEEND</u>: I've given a few talks in the past on the history of our village. I'd like to develop a new one more about the 'ordinary' people who lived in the village. If you live in a house with an interesting history, or know something about the people who lived there, and you are prepared to share, I'd love to hear from you.

Anne Ewing anne_ewing@talktalk.net



CHURCH NEWS

Have you ever felt like you were invisible?

It's not a great feeling to be neither seen nor heard by those around you and worst still to feel of no value.

The feeling of invisibility among older women in our culture is a well-documented phenomenon, women as young as 50 can begin to be overlooked in social situations, the workplace and in the media. Women of

all ages, in the time of Jesus, certainly had little or no status, neither did the infirm, diseased and disabled.

And yet Jesus, had a habit of both **seeing and listening to** people such as these, and in doing so he absolutely recognised their worth.

He crossed many religious and cultural boundaries in order to include the excluded and redefined what it meant to be of value as he recognised the humanity of those who had become invisible to the world. He heard the cries of those who were suffering devastating pain, physical, psychological and spiritual and did not turn his eyes away from the abandoned and unloved. Rather he sought to bring them healing and peace, giving them a home once more within the human family.

As I prepare this, Trump is declaring the war is over in Gaza as a prisoner and hostage exchange takes place under a new ceasefire agreement. Tens of thousands are trying to return to their homes, or what remains of them, in Northern Gaza.

Those who are suffering around the world today, and those closer to home, deserve to be seen, heard, valued and helped. Christians and those of other faiths believe that God still sees and hears those who have become invisible and will ultimately bring about justice and overcome all evil.

Our thoughts, prayers and actions are very much needed for the good of the world, no matter how insignificant they may seem. The rest is in God's hands.

With Much Love & Many Prayers for you all, Revd Caroline O'Neill, Wellsprings Benefice

CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2025

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

Sunday 2 nd	(All Saints/All Souls)		
8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne	Wellsprin Benefic
9:30am	Communion	Worton	1974700761777
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot	
11am	Communion	Potterne	
11am	Communion	Seend	
4pm	Benefice All Souls Service	Bulkington	
Sunday 9 th	(Remembrance Sunday)		
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Bulkington	
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Potterne	
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Poulshot	
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Seend	
10:50am	Remembrance Service	Worton	
6pm	Holy Communion (BCP)	Potterne	
Sunday 16 ^{tl}	(Second before Advent)		
8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne	
9:30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington	
9:30am	Communion	Worton	
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne	
11am	High Eucharist (BCP)	Seend	
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Poulshot	
Friday 21st			
3:30pm	Messy Church	Potterne Villa	age Hall
Sunday 23 rd	d (Sunday before Advent)		
9:30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot	
9:30am	Family Service	Worton	
11am	Communion	Bulkington	
11am	Communion	Seend	
11am	Communion	Potterne	
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Seend	
Weds 27 th			
5pm	Celtic Service	Poulshot	
Sunday 30 ^{tl}	h (Advent Sunday)		
10am	Benefice Service	Worton	

Every Tuesday, 9am Daily Prayer service at Poulshot Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

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

From the Registers:

No baptisms, weddings or funerals this month.

Friday 21 November 3.30 pm - 5.15 pm
Potterne Village Hall, Mill Road, SN10 5ND
(parking available at the hall and old school)

Crafts, Games, Worship, Food, Fun

You are welcome to arrive any time in the first hour.

Refreshments when you arrive, then crafts and activities,
Bible story and song, followed by a sit down family meal.

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult

BULKINGTON NEWS



The Bulkington Village Lunch will take place on Wednesday 5th November at 12.15 for 12.30 at The Well. Please contact Phyl Yarde in advance for the menu (828116).

New people are always welcome to join us.

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

The **Mobile Library** will be visiting the car-park of The Well in Bulkington on Monday 3rd November 11.05 –11.30 am.



THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP

will meet from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. on Monday 10th November – venue to be confirmed, New people always welcome.

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

BULKINGTON 100 CLUB

We held the first draw of our new year at the village lunch on Wednesday and our winners were :

£30	No. 78	Jeni Raby-Cox
£25	No. 1	Gilly Breach
£20	No. 13	Paula Quinn
£15	No. 65	Alec King
£10	No. 6	James Love



Well done to the winners and thanks to our diners who helped with the draw.

The Bulkington Ladies group will meet

on Thursday 27th Nov at 7.30 pm in Bulkington Village Hall and will be entertained by the Marden Vale Handbell Ringers.



Parish Clerk - Mrs. Tekla Hicks <u>clerk@bulkington.org.uk</u>
Please note, the new website will be going live shortly –
www.bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The clerk's email will also be changing to

clerk@bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk but do please continue to contact via the above for the time being.

Draft Minutes of the Bulkington Parish Council General Meeting held on Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 7.30pm at Bulkington Village Hall, Bulkington, Wiltshire.

Present: Councillors P. Oakey (chair), S. Macalpine-Downie (vice-chair), J. Anderson-Hill.

Members of Public (MOP): Wiltshire Councillors Tamara Reay.

Proper Officer: T. Hicks.

Recording and filming of the meeting There were no MOP present.

Apologies None received and Cllr. Breach was absent.

<u>Declarations of Interest</u> There were no declarations of interest received.

<u>Minutes of the previous meeting</u> The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 10th September 2025 were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

<u>Public Participation</u> None and there were no petitions or deputations received.

Reports The members received an update from Wiltshire Councillor – Cllr. Reay.

- Cllr Reay updated the meeting regarding the proposed safety improvements at Black Dog crossing near Worton (C20) and at Caen Hill. The works will start on 23rd October and will last for five weeks. Diversions will be in place and more information will be found on www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-road-closures.
- Wiltshire Council will debate the Blue Badge parking charges later in October as the Lib. Dem. Council will be reviewing the Conservative Blue Badge resolution of charges and concessions to be in line with their mandate.
- Wiltshire Council will be starting to create their budget for the coming financial year. There will be public engagement sessions available, details of which will be online.
- Cllr. Oakey updated the meeting that the adult defib. pads were being replaced at the end of October, and the child pads were due to be changed in the new year.
- The clerk updated the meeting that the playground needed a committee to move the improvements forward. It was agreed that the clerk would circulate the invitation to be part of a committee on Facebook and Spotlight.
- The members received the up-to-date external meetings schedule.

Planning Matters to discuss

The council noted that no applications were received before the meeting.

The council noted the BPC Planning Schedule as at 1st October 2025.

Maintenance

The council discussed and agreed parish steward jobs for next visit – to request the sinking manhole cover near Chestnuts be backfilled with tarmac.

The council received updates regarding moving road signs:

Children crossing warning sign. Carry forward. Bulkington Village entrance signs. Carry forward.

The council discussed the update regarding the village entry with gates. Carry forward.

Finance

Payments for approval:

Clerk's Salary. Approved.

Clerk's PAYE. Approved.

Clerk's expenses to 30th September 25. Approved.

TEEC – Website transfer and set up - £1303.20. Approved.

Chair's expenses – Defib. Pads - £168.00. Approved.

Monthly Management Accounts Members received the monthly financial report and bank reconciliation. Cllr. Oakey signed the bank reconciliation and bank statements.

Budget and Precept 2026-27 Members received and discussed second draft of the proposed budget and precept requirements for 2026-27. Carry forward to next meeting for approval.

The council RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to ACTION: Clerk to close the Lloyds Bank account.

<u>Playground & Grounds</u> Members received an update on the playground maintenance. It was agreed to carry forward to the next meeting to see if a committee can be created. It was also RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to carry out playground inspections: October to February monthly, March to September fortnightly. ACTION: Clerk to amend rota.

<u>Telephone Kiosk</u> The council received an update from the clerk that the Telephone Kiosk is not listed and may be sited on the green area by the bus stop. It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to ACTION: Clerk to prepare a village questionnaire to ask the residents for their suggested uses of the kiosk.

Governance The council received an update on '.gov.uk' website & email requirements as required in the SAPPP assertion 10 of the Practitioners Guide 2025 and it was noted that it is now fully compliant. It was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY to ratify the decision made by email that the new website www.bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk and associated email addresses be used from now on. ACTION: Clerk to advertise new email addresses online and on the notice board.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the IT Policy as required in the SAPPP assertion 10 of the Practitioners Guide 2025.

<u>Vacancies</u> There were no new applications for co-option to fill the Councillor vacancies.

<u>Civility & Respect Pledge</u> The council discussed the Councillor's Statement of Assurance as an additional part of the NALC Civility and Respect charter. It was agreed to carry forward.

<u>Financial Regulations</u> The clerk advised the council that it was not necessary to adopt any amendments to the Financial Regulations.

<u>Remembrance</u> Day It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to ACTION: Clerk to purchase a memorial wreath. Attendance on behalf of the parish council at the memorial service would be agreed via email.

<u>Confirmation of date of next meeting</u> The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th November 2025** at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next council meeting.

Minutes prepared by the clerk. <u>clerk@bulkingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk</u>

APPEAL FOR PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE: The village playground needs a committee to help run it, inspect it and keep it in tip-top condition. Should you be interested in being part of the committee, please contact the clerk.

TELEPHONE KIOSK: We propose to move the kiosk to be near the bus stop. What would you like the kiosk to be? (it's not currently watertight!) Any ideas to the clerk please.

SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

SEEND WI



Yes, it was that time of year again! Friends, family and WI members gathered for our Annual Quiz Night with quizmaster Chris Downham. Questions ranged from the easy to fiendishly difficult; it certainly gave the little grey cells a workout! It was great to see the hall full with

everyone joining in enthusiastically. Many thanks to Chris for all his hard work.

Our speaker in November will be Julia Kirkland, who will give a talk on "Financial Wellbeing", which is sure to be a topic of interest. This is also a meeting when members are invited to bring a small wrapped Christmas gift for a vulnerable person; these will be distributed through the WI Federation.

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

SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS



Future dates:

November 16th Sunday walk

December 7th Sunday walk with mince pies and mulled wine October saw 16 members head to Lyndhurst in the New Forest for a mid-week break; we usually have a weekend away but thought we would try something different. The mid-week decision proved to be a huge success.

14 met at Bolderwood car park in the New Forest on Tuesday, enjoyed their picnic lunch and then completed a circular walk around the deer park. Some walked a 2.5 mile loop and others completed a 4 mile loop. Deer were spotted in the enclosure where they were grazing.

Wednesday morning was overcast but 12 of the group set off from the hotel and walked across heathland and through woods for approx. 2.5 miles where 2 people chose to take a short cut back to the hotel while 10 continued to complete another loop of approx. 4 miles through woods showing their beautiful autumn colours and back across heathland to Lyndhurst. A very enjoyable walk was had while others had a walk to Lyndhurst and sampled tea/coffee and cake.

The Thursday was a beautiful sunny morning, 14 drove to Keyhaven and completed a 3 mile circular walk around the marshes following, through the marshes where birds were in abundance to watch, the path along the sea front was perfect for a stop to enjoy our surroundings in the sunshine.

The hotel was lovely and served good breakfasts and evening meals, the company as always was great and Bob's quiz and his legendary bread pudding was the icing on the cake.

Looking forward to our Christmas meal on Thursday 18th December.

Sandy

SHUTTLE NEWS

There are no more places on the bus to Salisbury on December 3rd and I have people on my reserve list so please tell me if you can't make it after all. Ring me on 828757 or text 07851008349 remembering to say who you are! There are places for the 5th of November trip so why not do your Christmas shop early? Thanks. Anita

OCTOBER DRAW

1 No. 31	R Dick	£50
2 No.75	L Murray	£20
3 No 57	V Lofts	£20
4 No.36	A Bailey	£20



Thanks to everyone at the WI Quiz who helped with the draw.



SEEND BRANCH – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION RBL POPPY APPEAL 2025

This year's Poppy Appeal runs from 24th October to 11th November and a team of willing volunteers will be coming

through the village between these dates to collect your donations, all of which go to the RBL in support of serving personnel, veterans, and their families. Most of you will have received Gift Aid envelopes in the last Spotlight. Please complete these wherever possible, as this significantly increases the support we are able to offer. You can also donate using the QR code below.

Unfortunately, we are short of a few collectors this year. I am therefore looking for volunteers to cover the following areas – Semington, The Lye, Cooks Close, Row Lane_and Seend Cleeve (even Nos, from Stocks to the Barge, but not the Pelch). If you are able to help, please reach out to me – my contact details are below.

Lamp-Post Poppies will also be available for sponsorship during remembrance time. Sponsorship starts at £20 and in return we will place your personalised tribute on a poppy for you (see last month's online colour supplement for photo) and will place the poppy at a suitable location. If you want to sponsor a Lamp-Post Poppy, please email or text me and I will get back to you with details.

The Remembrance Day Service this year is on Sunday 9th November, commencing at the War Memorial at 10:40, before moving into the Church. There will also be a short service at the War Memorial on Armistice Day, 11th November, commencing at 10:45.

Steven Cubberley, Chairman – Seend Branch RBL Steven@Cubberley.com 07711 127230



SEEND THEATRE CLUB

We very much enjoyed the play "Blithe Spirit", Noel Coward's "improbable farce" which was performed so well at Salisbury Theatre. It is a theatre

classic, written in 1941 and described as 'a celebration of life through a comedy about death'. The cast kept us spellbound and the stage set, so well designed, added some surprise effects at just the right moments!

Our highlight this month is a trip to Bristol Hippodrome for "Mamma Mia!". Set on a Greek Island paradise, this tale of friendship, love and identity is told through the timeless, wonderful music of ABBA.

All members have received an invitation to our Christmas Social Evening, to be held on 4th December in the Pavilion. This will be an opportunity to meet up and enjoy some seasonal treats!

We always welcome new members so, if you are interested, please contact either Ken (01380 828511) or email: membership.seendtheatreclub@gmail.com for an application form.

Ken Harvey

SEEND SCHOOL NEWS



From juggling to scavenger hunting, plate spinning to archery and axe throwing — the morning was packed with laughter, learning, and lots of sweet treats!

Special thanks to:

In2sport for the brilliant games and coaching

<u>Hollychocs</u> for the warming drinks and chocolatey delights

Three Bears Bakes for the delicious homemade goodies

Clare's Circus for bringing the hoops and Diabolos - they were a huge hit!

A super special thanks to **FOSS**; they contributed to the planning of the event as well as the set up and running on the day.

Finally, thank you to our amazing staff and parents for making the morning so welcoming and fun; a shining example of our Seend School community coming together.

Our Cross Country Stars 🎗

It was fantastic to have so many children representing Seend School on 8th October at the Melksham Cross Country event. Melksham Oak said it was the largest cross country event they'd had in a long time!

Huge well done to everyone who took part!

Family Learning Morning

It was great to welcome families in to school this term for our first Family Learning Morning. Parents were able to see phonics in action in YR/1, a reading lesson in Y2/3 and a writing lesson in Y4/5/6.

Melksham Tag Rugby Festival

The Y2/3 children represented our school fantastically on 15th October at the Melksham Tag Rugby Festival, demonstrating great sportsmanship and teamwork. They respected everyone and encouraged one another too - a team huddle was a particular highlight and all their idea.

Their lights shone brightly in the community today and we are super proud of them.

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

We had our first open morning in October where we welcomed parents to come and see our lovely village school. It was fantastic to have so many families join us for this. Don't worry if you missed it, we have further open mornings coming up on Tuesday 18th November, Wednesday 10th December and Thursday 8th January. Please get in touch to book your space – <u>admin@seend.wilts.sch.uk</u> or by calling 01380 828334

SEEND BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Every Wednesday (Term Time) 9-11am at the Irene Usher Pavilion. For ages 0 months to school age. An informal meet up for parents to get together and children to play! Free taster session, and then £1.50 per session per family.



Contact <u>elebraney84@hotmail.co.uk</u>

SEEND PLAYGROUP



The weather on 3rd October wasn't very good but it didn't dampen the spirits of the children, parents and grandparents. We have a lovely morning and delicious cakes were enjoyed with coffee made by the parents. Thank you to all who made cakes and thank you to the

committee who served everyone's. We raised £67.00 by donations which was given to Tessa for Macmillan Cancer Charity at the Community Centre. (*For which much thanks! TD.*)

The children have enjoyed playing out and walking around the field finding autumn coloured leaves and nuts.

Our topics this term are animals, bonfire and firework safety and Christmas.

Rose Dick, Play Leader, 01380 828003

KEEVIL SCHOOL

Wow! Term 1 is already complete, and it was a busy one for sure! At the end of September, we celebrated Harvest Festival with a church service in St Leonards led by Rev Jake. Thank you to the whole school community for your generous donations which were very gratefully received by the Trowbridge Storehouse Food Bank. Spitfire class had a wonderful trip to Plas Pencelli in the Brecon Beacons in October. Huge thanks to the team of staff who looked after them during their adventurous pursuits in the Welsh countryside! The children had a brilliant time caving, canoeing, climbing and abseiling, as well as taking part in a scavenger hunt, and an adventure walk. And I'm pleased to report that everyone successfully achieved the Dingle Descent which involves walking down a stream in the dark!

Forest School sessions continue to be a big hit with our Yr 2s who have been making bug hotels in our forest school field. We look forward to checking in with the local wildlife after half term to make sure everyone is enjoying their new home for the winter. For anyone thinking about joining Keevil School, including as a mid-year transfer, we are always happy to show you around. Please get in touch with the school office to arrange an appointment.

Happy half term everyone – enjoy the break and we look forward to seeing you back at school for Term 2.

Caroline Noonan, Chair of FoKS, Lindsey Hermon, Headteacher

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Council meeting: Tuesday, 30th September 2025 18.30pm. Location: Seend Community Centre.

Present: Bridget Johnston (Vice Chair), Cllr William Lack, Cllr Paul Manning, Cllr Phil Springate, Cllr John Williams, Cllr Pamela Ackerman, Cllr Jamie Halliday.

- Apologies: Cllr Helen Robinson- Gordon, Cllr Debbie Savage (Chair)
- Parish Clerk: Hayley Bell
- Public Attendance: 24 Members of the Public, Cllr Tamara Reay,

Cllr Reay provided the following updates on local matters:

Cllr Reay advised the council that Wiltshire Council budget consultation sessions are available for the public to attend.

Wednesday 8 October, 2pm-4pm at **Devizes** Leisure centre, Southbroom Road SN10 5AB

Monday 13 October, 1pm-7pm at County Hall, Bythesea Road, **Trowbridge** BA14 8JN The council receives nearly 84% of its core funding from local Council Tax and part of business rates. In 2025/26 the council's budget is £527.42 million, more than half of which is spent on adult and children's social care services.

The most significant spending in 2025/26 is on:

- Adult services £191.5m
- Families and children £75m
- Environment £49.6m
- Highways and transport £43.4m
- Education and skills £38.1m

Councillors thanked the volunteers who helped to win **Best Kept Village**.

Dr Brian Matthews MP—questions and answers from Councillors and residents. brian.mathew.mp@parliament.uk 01225 434 216

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 26th August 2025, were circulated to all Councillors. Minutes approved: By Cllr Johnston and Cllr Halliday.

Matters arising not on the agenda: Welcome Message from The Chair to Councillors, Residents, and Officers.

Items for discussion from members of the parish: Residents requested that the parish council consider a **map of Seend** to showcase all Seend has to offer tourists. The council supported the concept, and the clerk will gain concepts and quotes for the next parish council meeting.

2025 Speedwatch: Recommendation approved by Cllr Johnston and Cllr Lack to fund 50 % of the new SID.

Area Board: next meeting will take place on 30th June at Needham House, Devizes.

Items of Correspondence

Councillors request a letter to be sent to the White Horse Federation regarding access through the school.

Recommendation to consider alternative venues within the parish to host future council meetings approved.

Recommendation approved by Cllr Johnstone and Cllr Lack to adopt SLCC Civility and Respect pledge.

Financial Matters

Payment

Miss H Bell	£680.35	Salary.
HMRC	£257.54	_
Seend Community Centre	£147.00	
Irene Usher	£56.25	
Hugo Fox	£23.99	
Defib Warehouse	£334.00	

Debit Card: No forecast payments for next month.

Payment schedule: annual payment schedule to be produced for councilors approval.

Date of next meeting: Date change due to leave, Tuesday 4th November 2025 and Tuesday 2nd December 2025 – Seend Community Centre.

<u>UPDATE FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL</u>

Planning in Wiltshire: Planning is often a very emotive subject for communities and as your Wiltshire Councillor my role is to support residents and Parish Councils through the process which can be complicated at times. Wiltshire's planning process shapes the future of our towns, villages, and countryside. Whether it's new homes or extensions, infrastructure, or green spaces, decisions are guided by three key frameworks:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): Sets out the government's priorities for sustainable development, housing and infrastructure delivery across England.
- Wiltshire Local Plan (LP): Determines where development should happen in the county up to 2038. It's the main reference for planning decisions and must align with the NPPF. The LP is currently at "draft" stage and is going through a series of hearings by the Planning Inspectorate. More information is at Wiltshire's Local Plan Wiltshire Council. In 2024 the Government raised Wiltshire's annual housing target from 1,917 to 3,476 homes, an 81% increase which means Wiltshire Council must identify and allocate significantly more land for housing development, including in areas previously considered less suitable. This means that once the current draft Local Plan is adopted, then a further revision will be required.
- Neighbourhood Plans (NP): Created by local communities, these plans reflect local priorities and influence development in specific areas. Once adopted, they carry legal weight. It's not mandatory for communities to have a NP, and the process does involve a lot of work for the volunteers but when a NP is in place the local policies are considered in any planning decision. Locally, Potterne and Seend have adopted NPs, and these are well worth a read. Thank you to everyone who helped develop the plans the current plans are now due to be updated, so please do get in touch with your Parish Council if you would like to assist.

These plans then form the policy framework for the assessment of planning applications by Planning Officers against policy and consultees' input. Consultees include highways, ecology, heritage, and parish councils. Comments by members of the public are also considered by the Planning Officer in their report. As your Wiltshire Councillor, I can "call in" applications for committee review which means that an application will be considered by a Planning Committee of Wiltshire Councillors, rather than delegated to officers - as a rule, I only call in strategic or controversial cases.

Planning can be complex – so please do get in touch with me and your Parish Council if you are planning a project locally. We are here to help.

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

GOOD NEWS FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Communities across Swindon and Wiltshire are seeing the results of sustained efforts to tackle crime, with new figures revealing a reduction in knife crime and theft offences over the past year.

Figures published by the Office of National Statistics show that Wiltshire has recorded a 4.5% reduction in weapon offences in the year ending June 2025 compared to the previous year—a reduction from 420 crimes to 401.

It comes following a partnership focus on delivering the Serious Violence Duty (SVD) which places a legal obligation on specified authorities to reduce violent crime. This includes police, local authorities, probation, NHS, youth justice services and fire.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson said: "Tackling serious violence remains one of my top priorities, and these figures show that our collective efforts are beginning to make a difference. The reduction in weapon offences is encouraging, but we know there is still much more to do."

BITS AND BOBS

MELKSHAM FLOWER CLUB

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm in Seend Community Centre.





NATIONAL OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

Facebook @WiltshireNGS. Instagram @wiltshirengs https://ngs.org.uk/wiltshire-by-arrangement. www.ngs.org.uk



Our lecture on November 19th in the Corn Exchange, Devizes, and is: "War Artists: Paul Nash, CRW Nevinson & The Great War" given by Dr David Boyd Haycock

Paul Nash and C.R.W. Nevinson were two of the most significant artists to paint the soldiers and battlefields of World War One. This lecture explores the artistic development of both men, and their distinct but related responses to representing an extraordinary, horrific and

very modern war in paint.

Dr. David Boyd Haycock is an established freelance art historian and curator.

Why not come to this lecture as a guest?- £8 on the door. Please email us first at theartssocietydevizes@gmail.com.

To join the Society, go to <u>www.theartssocietydevizes.org</u> or search Facebook for The Arts Society Devizes, and click on the button. Membership is £50 for 10 lectures from October 2025 to July 2026.

Please be in your seats for 10:45 am. Lecture starts at 11 am through to 12 noon. Coffee is available beforehand.



The fourteenth CHRISTMAS COUNTRY FAIR

in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15th

Market Lavington Community Hall 10am to 2pm

Start your Christmas shopping with us!
Lots of stalls featuring handmade crafts and produce
Free Entry - Donations to the Army Benevolent Fund
Tombola! Coffee and cakes!

For more information

please contact Sue Bonney on 01380 812757 or email: suejbonney@gmail.com

Saturday 22 November
2.30 pm – 5.30 pm
Furlong Close & The Mind Tree Café
CHRISTMAS MARKET
Furlong Close, Rowde SN10 2TQ
FREE ENTRY



ONE CHRISTMAS CAROL

Direct from London, and Stopping off at Cleeve House in Seend on 12th December One Actor. 35 Characters. One Unforgettable Christmas Story.

Gwithian Evans stars in a spellbinding new tour of Dickens' timeless classic -

This December, audiences are invited to experience Charles Dickens' beloved *A Christmas Carol* as never before with **One Christmas Carol By Douglas H. Baker**,



a powerful and intimate one-man adaptation starring acclaimed stage actor **Gwithian Evans**, best known for his roles in The King's Man and the Mouse Trap and directed by **Claire Evans**.

Stripped of scenery, costumes, and theatrical excess, *One Christmas Carol* uses just **three mismatched chairs** and an astonishing performance to breathe new life into over **35 iconic characters**—including Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchitt, Tiny Tim, and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future.

This fresh adaptation reveals the enduring message at the heart of Dickens' classic tale: redemption, humanity, and compassion, offering audiences of all ages a deeply moving and unexpectedly magical experience.

Tickets and tour information available now at www.onechristmascarol.co.uk

DEVIZES OPENDOORS - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND TRUSTEES

Why not join our friendly volunteer team? There are lots of different roles; staffing sessions and managing our clothing bank, cooking (at home or the centre), serving meals, supporting guests with problems, and promotional activities.

We are very flexible – you choose what shifts you want to do. We provide full training and support. We are particularly looking for cooks and kitchen support at present.

Interested in joining our volunteer team? Contact Nadia <u>manager@devizesopendoors.org.uk</u>

Interested in being a trustee? Do get in touch manager@devizesopendoors.org.uk

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Fri 28th & Sat 29th November 2025 10.30am - 4pm



3 St Mary's School Buildings Steeple Ashton Wiltshire BA14 6EU (Behind the village shop) www.wiltshireguildswd.org Reg. Charity No. 1203638

Get ready to shop, sip, and sparkle at the very first Julia's House CHRISTMAS ARTISAN MARKET IN DEVIZES.



The festive charity event, which celebrates local artists and makers, will take place at Braeside Education Centre on Sunday 16th November 2025, from 11am to 4pm.

Entry is free, and visitors can expect a sleighful of delights – from unique handcrafted gifts to wreath-making workshops, children's

Christmas craft activities, a pop-up café serving delicious homemade treats and mulled wine, and lots more.

Every mince pie munched and special gift bought will help <u>Julia's House</u> provide its specialist care for children with life-limiting conditions and support for their families – giving them all a chance to have the magical moments and memories every child and family deserves.

THE SINGING SECTION.....

MELKSHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Our next concert will be on December the 6th, 7.30pm in the United Church in Melksham. We are singing Rossini's Petit Messe Solennelle, a gorgeous piece of music with some excellent professional soloists as well as us. Tickets will be at the door.



Anita Shea

dington BOOK NOW FOR ADVENT!

Tickets are on sale now for Edington Arts' very popular Advent Concert, online through their website at www.edingtonarts.org or by phone from Chrissy on 01380 831256.

The concert is on Saturday December 6th, at 7.30pm in Edington Priory Church, and will be given by the excellent chapel choir of the Queen's College, Oxford - a "jewel in the British Choral scene", according to BBC Music Magazine.

Mince pies and mulled wine (and non-alcoholic alternatives) will be available during the interval, and details of the programme will be uploaded onto the website as soon as it becomes available. Seats are going quite fast, so don't delay getting yours!

WHITE HORSE OPERA

Tickets are now on sale for a gorgeous Christmas Concert on Friday 12th December at St Andrew's Church (Nice and warm!).

Includes Allegri's Miserere, Vivaldi's Gloria, pieces from Handel's Messiah and many more beautiful works. Refreshments will be served.

Tickets £15 from Devizes Books and https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera

Don't forget to look at our November online colour supplement - available shortly on seend.org.uk - for photos of what's happened since the last issue, including our Macmillan Coffee Morning and Pumpkin Day at the Brewery.

Please send photos of village events that you would like published to spotlight@seend.org.uk

AND FINALLY.....

As we approach stir-up Sunday on 23rd November, please be careful. My great aunt fell into a vat of Christmas pudding mix and drowned. She tried to swim but was dragged under by a strong currant.



<u>USEFUL CONTACTS:</u> Please tell Spotlight if your group's contact details change.

Church: Rector Rev Gerry Lynch. Email rev@gerrylynch.co.uk Tel. 07521 440622

Assoc. Priest Rev. Caroline O'Neil 828302 (p/t) Maureen Allchin 07421 137462

Benefice Administrator: Sarah Leckie 07938 270815. PCC Secretary: Anne Ewing, 828557.

Churchwardens: Seend: Len Murray, 828513, Anne Ewing, 828557; Bulkington: Mrs Liz

Futter 828485, Mike Rose 01249 248516; LPAs: Liz Futter 828485, Len Murray 828513, Sue

Noad 870343, Sue Rose 01249 248516, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139.

Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.

Irene Usher Pavilion bookings – www.seendlyefield.org/bookings.html or 828970

Bulkington Village Hall - Roger and Liz Futter 828485

Seend Community Centre – To contact please e-mail <u>seendcommunitycentre@gmail.com</u>

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

Seend Parish Council Clerk – Hayley Bell, clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk

Seend and Bulkington'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—Tekla Hicks clerk@bulkington.org.uk

Countryside access officers for Seend & Bulkington:

Ali Raisey ali.raisey@wiltshire.gov.uk and Stephen Leonard

Stephen.leonard@wiltshire.gov.uk

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

MP: Dr Brian Mathew – email brian.mathew.mp@parliament.uk

Police Community Support, Sgt Kerena Walters, kerena.walters@wiltshire.police.uk

100+Club Draw-Alison Bottomley -

avbottomley@yahoo.co.uk

Book Clubs - the original: June May

 $827169\ /07590\ 818750$ - the other: Frank

Teasdale 07719 918310

Cricket Club - Brian Hunt 828581

Day Schools -Tessa Doe 07719 917814

Fawlty Players Panto Group - Tessa Doe

07719 917814

Fete-see Lye Field

Flower Show -Julia White 01380 827082

Football -Jake Sainsbury

FoSS - friendsofseendschool@gmail.com

Historic Houses Club - Debbie Savage 07753

311996 or Neil Yockney 827139

LINK Scheme - 075320 55560

Lye Field - www.seendlyefield.org

Neighbourhood Watch - Seend - Brian Hunt

828581 Seend Cleeve - Owen Burton

828820 theclerk@bulkington-pc.co.uk

Preschool -(Playleader) Rose Dick 828003

Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 07719 917814

Nosh & Natter – Frank Teasdale 07719

918310

Ramblers - Sandy James 01380 739235

Royal British Legion - Sec: Dave Beaumont 07538 651712, Welfare: Christine O'Reilly

07791 157060 / 01380 828888 Chairman:

Steve Cubberley 07711 127230

Seend Baby & Toddler Group - Eleanor

Braney 07947 867701

elebraney84@hotmail.co.uk

Seend CLT - www.seend clt.org

info@seendclt.org

Seend Fund - Anita Shea 828757

Short Mat Bowls Club - Colin Waldeck 01225

736092

Table tennis - Chris Brooker, 828047

Tennis Club - seendtennisclub@gmail.com

Theatre Club - Ken Harvey 828511 -

membership.seendtheatreclub@gmail.com

Wheelchairs to borrow - Sue and Graham

Jones in Seend Cleeve, tel: 01380 828354

WI - Fiona Johnson on 828401 and Joyce

Harvey 828511

Wine Circle - Steve Parsons 07974 347487

seendwinecircle@gmail.com



www.postandprovisions.com



Order Scottish fish any Wednesday for a Friday collection. Call 07910 316163 or Join Whatsapp Group on the same Number. 01380 828250

Soup of the day
Vegetarian options
Irish breakfasts and food
Tea, coffee and cakes
Soup of the month
Eat in or takeaway



Tired of cooking every day? Order home cooked meals. Pies, pasta, bakes, cakes, puddings and more!

Order local organic meat, a day in advance.

Seasonal garden plants: (If closed post cash through letterbox, or pay by BACS. JP Mccormack, sort code 40-19-16; acc 81508148

Private hire of café for supper, lunch, parties and other events.

OPENING HOURS

Shop, cafe- 9am to 5pm, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am to 2pm Wed, Sat Post Office closed Sat and Sun.





