

The Loop

September
2019

£1.00



Magnificent gardens of Church End raise over £800 for Friends of St James

Crowds of people spent a glorious afternoon in July viewing the 12 gardens of Church End opened to raise funds for the Friends of St James.

You can read a full report and see pictures inside.

A clean sweep for Biddenham Juniors

The report on page 6 details the amazing success that Biddenham Junior Cricketers have had in reaching County finals. The great news is that they triumphed in all their finals over the bank holiday weekend.



Under 11 Development Team with Chris Spurgeon, junior chairman, at the back.



Under 13 Team

Don't forget Biddenham Show Sunday 8th September St James' School field and Biddenham Village Hall

Details on page 4.



The Under 11 County team who won their match v. Bedford at Ampthill on Bank Holiday Monday. The result means that they are the best Under 11 team in Bedfordshire in 2019.



‘The Loop’ is published by the Parish Church of St James as a service to the communities of Biddenham and Great Denham
The editor welcomes contributions from residents and friends via email to loopeditor@gmail.com

Letter from the Vicar



Dear Friends

This morning, I drove from Betws-y-coed towards the Ogwen Valley in Snowdonia; the first mountain that I encountered is called Moel Siabod, which means Shapely Hill. I had no intention of climbing it but I parked close to a pub on the A5 and took my camera and a walking pole to try and get close to it. It is August, and typical of English weather, the sky was filled with thick cloud that left all the nearby mountains shrouded in cloud. Moel Siabod was no different. I followed an ancient bridge across a waterfall, then up a steep path to mountain dirt tracks.

I carried my own cloud, heavier, it felt, than three clouds in the sky. Somehow the power of the earth and the sky, and threat of rain, seemed to be empowering rather than crushing, like a reminder of hope.

It started to rain. Just a drizzle at first, then a thick, driving rain which soaked my trousers and boots. It was then, inexplicably, that I encountered a family of Orthodox Jews.

The father and his son both wore the black skull caps called Kippahs and the woman was dressed in an austere way, with completely unsuitable shoes given the terrain, but they seemed dead set on moving on.

'What is the weather doing? Do you you know?' the man asked.

I was as much at the mercy of the weather as they were. 'Are you on holiday here?' I asked.

'We are in the hotel on the main road, but we thought we would walk up and see a mountain.' Seemed perfectly reasonable to me.

I asked them if they were wet, and the woman replied; 'We are wet.'

I said that they would not get any wetter, so I walked with them for a few hundred feet in the rain.

There was the sound of thunder in the sky, loud, like the crack of a whip. I turned around, and watched an RAF Typhoon jet turn down the valley. I could see its grey belly, and hear the sound of its 2000hp Eurojet Consortium engines. A hundred million pounds worth of technology, designed to confront humanity's total inability to avoid conflict.

As the sound of the aircraft faded into the distance, we talked about faith. I explained that I loved photography, and that I come here often to take pictures of the mountains. I told them that what I really wanted to catch was a rainbow.

'Why?' the woman asked.

'Hmm,' I replied, 'because rainbows are a sign of the covenant, and,' I added, 'they make nice pictures.'

The man was surprised by this; 'They are a sign of the covenant, I guess we all need hope.'

Just white light, being divided into colour through particles of water. We know this, but Jews and Christians believe in a God who can transform the ordinary. I am a Christian, and they are Jews, and that did not seem to matter. God is always faithful to his promise, whoever we are.

The rain was too much for the children and after a while they turned back; 'God bless,' the man said. I thanked him. 'I hope you get your rainbow!' he said.

As the rain stopped, and the clouds thinned, I ascended a path made out of broken stones that was fast becoming a stream. At the top there was a circular path that surrounded a small reservoir. The water was choppy, but the sun came out. It was beautiful, and a tree grew out of the lake side, filled with wild mountain flowers. Sadly, there was no rainbow, but there was peace.

God bless.

Eric



The Parish Church of St James, serving Biddenham & Great Denham

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	www.stjamesbiddenham.com	

Autumn Supper with Musical Entertainment

Saturday 19 October

7.30pm

St James's Church Barn

Tickets £12

(wine/soft drinks provided)

Tickets available from:

Sue Squire: 01234 342373

Jane George: 01234 359014

Tibbs Dementia Foundation



Many local organisations have shown interest in the work and activities of Tibbs Dementia Foundation and supported the successful launch of our 'Friends of Tibbs' scheme in April.

We are now about to move to the next phase to roll out 'friends' to a wider audience, encouraging as many people as we can to join our community to work together to build a better world for people with dementia. We hope that if enough people are able to make regular, small financial contributions, and take an ongoing interest in our work then together we can continue to develop, shape and build services and activities that are relevant, helpful and accessible, supporting people to live as well as they can with dementia.

Our launch takes place to coincide with World Alzheimer's Day on Thursday 19th September. We are planning an afternoon to remember at the Sharnbrook Hotel, with an afternoon tea with a difference; Italian themed including a delicious and interesting menu similar to below:

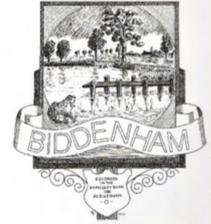
- Mezza Luna Panini:
Parma Ham, Mozzarella, Tomato & Basil drizzled with olive oil
- Chicken Mayo & Spring Onion
- Smoked Salmon, Arugula & Cream Cheese
- Bruschettina
- Homemade Arancini
- Freshly Made Traditional Scone
served with clotted cream & preserve
- Tiramisu All'Espresso
- Nonna's Chocolate Tartufo
- Chocolate Lobster Tail
- Limoncello Posset & Amaretti

Throughout the afternoon we will also be showcasing the work of Tibbs Dementia Foundation with entertainment from our Music 4 Memory group and an exhibition of artwork from our creative arts club.

Tickets are only £20.00 per person and can be purchased through our office. Call 01234 210993 or email contact@tibbsdementia.co.uk

Sarah Russell
sarah@tibbsdementia.co.uk

The Biddenham Society



*****SAVE THE DATE*****

**for the Biddenham Society's
55th Annual Lunch and AGM**

on SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2019

at 12.30 pm in the Village Hall

Find out about all recent planning applications, decisions and appeals, and the continued attempts to urbanise our village.

This is a friendly, informal, informative and popular occasion. Don't miss it!

FULL BOOKING DETAILS IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE LOOP

Celebrating and preserving Biddenham's beauty and heritage

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07866 456769 (Bernard Henry)

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Autumn & Winter



Find Out More At www.moggerhangerpark.com - Events

Moggerhanger Park - Park Road - Moggerhanger - Beds - MK44 3RW



Looking forward to Biddenham Show Sunday 8th September at St James' School field and Biddenham Village Hall 12.00noon to 4.00pm

Entry Fee £2.00 for adults, accompanied children under 12 free

This year's Show will be opened by Biddenham resident, former England footballer, Andrew Johnson, immediately after the Fancy Dress Parade which starts at 12.00 noon. Don't miss it!

Lots to See and Do

- Children's Fancy Dress; this year's theme is 'A Favourite Animal'
- Fun Dog Show
- Petting Farm
- Circus skills
- Punch & Judy show
- Balloon modelling
- Face painting and glitter tattoos
- Bracelet making
- Human Fruit Machine
- Bottle Stall
- Book Stall
- Bouncy Castle
- Raffle
- Pizza
- Ice cream
- Beer, cider and Pimms tent
- Teas and cakes
- Jazz DJ

Bottle stall appeal

Due to popular demand the bottle stall will be back this year – but we do need bottles! If you can donate one or more (but please check that they are within their best before date) please contact Ashley Knight on ashley@80kLtd.co.uk or 07748 305050.

All bottles will be collected in the week before the Show.

Thank you.

Thanks to our sponsors!



We are very grateful that the Biddenham Show 2019 is once again sponsored by TAYLOR BRIGHTWELL.

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www.taylorbrightwell.co.uk

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The Manor
Hospital

We are also pleased to announce that BMI THE MANOR HOSPITAL have provided additional sponsorship and will be present at the Show offering free health checks and advice. They are also providing an Essential Health Screening Appointment as a raffle prize.

Fun Dog Show

Dogs are once again welcome at this year's Show, in fact they are positively encouraged. Supported by ARAS Dog Training Club, we are holding Biddenham's very own Dog Show, just for fun. Take a look at the classes below, decide which your canine friend could win and come along on the day. Entry to each class is £2.00. As well as the rosettes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place there will be a cup for the Best in Show.

Classes:

1. Prettiest Bitch
2. Handsomest Dog
3. Young handler (Child 14 years or under)
4. Waggiest Tail
5. Cutest Puppy (Under 1 year)
6. Golden Oldie (Over 7 years)
7. Best Crossbreed
8. Dog & Owner Lookalike
9. Best in show (Chosen from the Class winners)

Request for cakes.

Every year the Teashop makes a significant contribution to the funds available for local groups, societies and charities. Its success relies mostly on the contribution of cakes (remember they must be easy to cut!) by Biddenham residents.

If you feel you can help us, please let us know by contacting Val Fitzhugh on valeriefitzhugh@gmail.com or call her on 210622.

Thank you

Important notice for craft and gardening entrants

- Entry forms are available online at www.biddenhamshow.org and in the brochure.
- You must ensure that we receive your entry by Thursday 5th September so we can allocate sufficient space for exhibits. Paper entries can be put through the letterbox at 32A Church End.
- Staging will take place **only** on Sunday morning between 8.15 and 9.45am. You should come to the village hall in the first instance.
- Judging will commence promptly at 10.00am

All events are vulnerable to change by circumstances beyond our control. Keep up to date at www.biddenhamshow.org

A fond farewell

After more than 45 years in the beauty business, and nearly half that time spent as proprietor of Only You in Biddenham's Deep Spinney, Dianne Cullip's departure surely warrants more than a three-line comment in The Loop.

We learned something of her career when she came to talk to our Women's Group last year. Having spent a short time in her first job on the beauty counter at E P Rose & Son Ltd, Dianne then made an impressive move to work for Helena Rubenstein.

She began Only You forty years ago and her daughter, Sam, worked with her for twenty-five years. For thirteen of those years Dianne set up and ran the Wig Studio, which has been her most rewarding work. Enabling a woman 'to feel a million dollars' for the duration of her hair loss was paramount and was summed up perfectly by a lady customer who wrote, 'Just a brief note to thank you for the lovely wigs that gave me confidence to face the world.' Another customer wrote, 'Thank you each and everyone of you for the treatments over the years and for helping and supporting me during my illness.'

It takes care and compassion to provide such a service and Dianne managed to do this very skilfully.

Over time the industry changed significantly but, with staff training, the systems in the salon were always kept up-to-date. Dianne acknowledged that the dedicated team of girls around her made Only You the success it had been.

Closing the doors was not taken lightly but retirement for Dianne and her husband, Michael, enables them to do some gardening, spend time with their treasured grandchildren and travel, especially the journey across the world to visit their son in Australia. Their daughter Sam, with whom she realised the dream of opening a business together, is now 'moving on to pastures new' to continue her own aspirations.

During her time at Only You Dianne has consistently and generously supported local functions, charities and charitable foundations and we thank her for that. She has received so many thanks and gifts from clients, customers and friends since her departure was announced that it seems fitting a few of those kind words and comments follow.

'I really looked forward to going to the salon. There was always a warm welcome, a relaxing environment and current reading material.'

'Dianne works tirelessly to keep the place spotless and with appropriate seasonal decorations.'

'Competent, convenient and proficient.'

'Only You is special. It deals with a person's individual needs and takes particular care to fulfil all requirements that affect your appearance.'

'They are generous with time and business matters are never apparent. Comfortable seating and respect from her staff are all conducive to the special atmosphere of the place.'

'Dianne led a lovely team; some of whom she trained. They were all helpful, friendly, kind, skilled and devoted to her. I shall miss their friendship and am sad about the closure. Best wishes to 'all who sailed in her.'

'Can't be easy for Dianne to be parting with her staff and many grateful clients but wonderful opportunities lie ahead for her.'

'She is a credit to the profession and thoroughly deserves her retirement.'

'I'll be sad to see the door close but you all leave on a high. Be proud of what you have achieved.'

They should indeed be proud of their achievements and now that the door has finally closed, we can only wish Dianne a very happy and fulfilling retirement and best wishes and future success to her staff.

Val Fitzhugh



Quiz Night

Saturday 5th October at 7.30 p.m.

Teams of 8,

or come and make up a table with others

Two course supper

Bar for wines, beer and soft drinks

Tickets £12.50 from Liz Watson 345028

or liz4watson@aol.com



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St James Biddenham All Age Worship

(An informal service accessible to all)

4.00pm

In the Church Barn
every third Sunday

Biddenham Cricket Club



This article is written in the week before three of Biddenham's junior teams appear in the county finals days to be held over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Success in the recent regional play off matches for both Under 11 teams and the Under 13 team has resulted in the following county finals:
Sunday 25th August –at Bedford CC
Under 11 Development team v Ickwell at 10.00am
Under 13 v Luton Caribbean at 1.00pm
Monday 26th August – at Ampthill CC
Under 11 County team v Bedford at 9.30am.

The enthusiasm generated by England Men's world cup win in July has carried through to our youngsters and they have seemed inspired, under the guidance of their coaches, to show skill and enthusiasm to achieve something that many of the larger clubs in Bedfordshire would be justly proud of.

The youngsters have achieved this, but thanks must go to all the coaches and helpers involved with the teams in all age groups from Under 9s to Under 15s. Chris Spurgeon leads the youth section and has received great support from Nic Bissett, Simon Broomfield, Mark Gibbs, Ross Kilroy, Julian Krishna, Will Lowerson, Tom Perry, Jagtar Singh, Jake Winger, Kate Winger and Nick Ulvert.

Four months (often just three months for the juniors) can seem a short season but in 2019 most of the youngsters will have played a great deal of cricket and hopefully made some new friends.

For the senior teams there are a few weeks of the season still to go but it is hoped that our Saturday and Sunday teams will both finish in the top halves of their respective divisions.

A fuller report will be made in the October bulletin.

The midweek adult team reached the main competition final 'The Winston Jermy Cup' early in August. The match was against Thurleigh who in the end won the game comfortably.

Late in July Biddenham hosted a Bedfordshire Under 10 age group match v Oxfordshire in midweek. The weather was almost too hot for cricket but both sets of organisers and parents from the counties were complimentary about the ground and facilities.

These events would not be possible without the continuous hard work of David Watson and his helpers on the ground, plus the support from the Parish Council mainly offered by Deborah Slade. Grateful thanks to them and, once again, a thank you to all the club's supporters in the village, including the Vice-Presidents and Sponsors, plus all those working behind the scenes to keep the cricket club functioning.

Richard Fone

Up to date club news, fixtures and results appear on the website at: <http://biddenham.play-cricket.com>

The 100 club provides the club with useful income and also raises its profile within the village amongst the residents for an annual fee of £12. If you would like to join the cricket club as a member, you will also gain automatic entry into the 100 club draw, which is held each month.

Contact numbers:

Chairman	Glenn Taylor	07778 479479
Cricket Secretary	Richard Fone	07818 678697
Junior Chairman	Chris Spurgeon	07707 771606
Club Welfare Officer	Maija Bissett	589473
100 Club	Judith O'Quinn	363489

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Great Denham Events

The next Parish Council meetings will be on Mondays 2nd September and 7th October at 7.30pm in the Mercia Suite, Great Denham Community Hall, Saxon Way.

There are 15 minutes for public questions at the beginning of the meetings.

The Parish Council is also organising a Community Litter Pick on Sunday 8th September, 10.00am to noon, at the Community Hall. Equipment and refreshments will be provided.

Events at Great Denham Community Hall
for further details and information please email events@greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk

Friday 6th September

Childrens' Cinema – Back to School special, 3.00pm

Quiz night and Pop-Up Pub, 8.30pm

Half Term Halloween Spooktakular events

Tuesday 22nd October Creepy Crafts

Friday 25th October Monster Mash Kids Disco

Friday 1st November Freaky Film

Saturday 30th November Comedy Night

To keep up to date with developments at Great Denham log on to <http://www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk/>

The Friends of St James, Biddenham
presents an evening with

Heart and Music



Musical Director: Malcolm Crane

A varied programme of music and songs, from swing, film, folk and show tunes to original compositions - plus some amusing poetry!

7:30pm, Saturday 12th October 2019

St James's Church, Church End, Biddenham MK40 4AS

Drinks and light refreshments in the interval

Entry £10 each (members of the Friends £8; children under 16 free)

To reserve your places, please contact:

Diana Shooter: 01234 213305 - diana.shooter437@btinternet.com

Chris Jones: 01234 211759 - chrishj49@gmail.com

In aid of The Friends of St James, Biddenham

- the charity which preserves and enhances the historic church buildings for future generations



'Church' with a difference!

Be creative
Have fun
Hear bible stories
Sing songs

Tea for the children!

St James's Church Barn, Biddenham

Tuesday 17 September

Tuesday 15 October

Tuesday 19 November

Tuesday 17 December

4.30pm - 6.00pm

St James's Church Barn, Biddenham

For children of all ages
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Free - No need to book - Just come along!

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St James's Church, Biddenham
All Saints Church, Kempston

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Where has
all the water
gone?

As we write, August could be the wettest on record, but another dry winter exacerbated by some hot weather in the spring meant that the pond started the year with too little water. This was not helped by an exceptionally hot spell in July, so that any remaining water evaporated away leaving only an unsightly cracked surface of dry mud! The recent rainfall has not yet had the effect of raising the water table to a level sufficient to put water back into the pond.

What can we do?

As previously reported, the Manor Hospital are happy for us to investigate the drain connection that we put in some years ago to channel rainwater from part of their roof. We hope to dig down to see if the drain is clear and the water running, if not we will attempt to clear any blockages and get the water flowing once again into the pond.

Although planning has been granted for houses near Duck End, we will continue to monitor the process and where possible object to the digging of ponds near our own, that will divert valuable water away. The aim of the Friends is to continue to preserve our village pond as an important home for wildlife and a valuable community resource.

On a positive note, the benches have been taken away, cleaned and returned, looking so much better. The rotting gate on the footpath has been measured and photographed with a view to it being replaced with something that will last for many more years.

Please look out for us at the Biddenham Show.

The Pond Team

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www.biddenhamvillagepond.wordpress.com

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Bedford National Trust Association

Meeting on Tuesday 17th September
at 2.30pm in the Addison Centre, Kempston,

Rachael Hall

National Trust Archaeologist

Rachel says that quite possibly she might have one of the nicest, but sometimes strangest jobs in archaeology.

She has worked for the National Trust for over 10 years. She finds it very difficult to describe what she does, as her job is so very varied.

Everyone welcome - small charge.

For more details ring Betty Thomas on
01480 860421



Four ways of dealing with desperation

Bertrand Russell

We stand on the shore of an ocean, crying to the night and to emptiness; sometimes a voice answers out of the darkness. But it is a voice of one drowning; and in a moment the silence returns. The world seems to me quite dreadful; the unhappiness of most people is very great.

Dylan Thomas

Do not go gentle into that good night
Old age should burn and rave at close of day
Rage, rage at the dying of the light

An African slave in America

Oh yes fix me Jesus
Fix me so I can walk on a little while longer
Fix me so I can pray on just a little bit harder
Fix me so I can sing on just a little bit louder
Fix me so that I can go on despite the pain the doubt and
yes, the anger
I ask not that you take the cross from me
Only that you give me the strength to continue carrying it
onward
Till my dying day.
Oh, fix me, Jesus, fix me.

Jesus Christ at the garden of Gethsemane before the cross

Father, please take this task away from me
If it is possible,
But your will be done not mine.

Edwin Martin



And the muntjac came too...

In a fitting finale to the Church End open gardens, those of us walking back along Main Road at about 5.00pm were treated to the sight of a large and somewhat startled muntjac racing from Vicar's Close towards Church End.

The picture is not the actual animal but a reminder of what these elusive creatures look like.

The gardens of Church End; from ponds to potatoes

Thankfully we were blessed with good weather for the *Friends of St James* Open Gardens event along Church End and The Old Barns on Sunday 7th July. This was an experiment, but – phew! - it worked! While many people are aware of the Biddenham gardens opened in support of the Red Cross every two years, we thought we would try something different - more informal and localised in one area of the village - to see what proud owners have achieved in gardens which are not visible to passers-by.

At the same time funds would be raised for *The Friends of St James*, the charity which preserves and enhances the beautiful church, barn and their grounds. In particular, we did not want garden owners to feel they had to display pristine gardens – just normal everyday gardens, maybe with some interesting features or even just “work in progress”.

In practice 12 householders took part in the experiment, a greater number than the organising committee had hoped for. They ranged widely in style and design and even included a display of potatoes grown in the back garden of one house. It was clear that most garden owners had, unsurprisingly, put a lot of effort into preparing their gardens and it was a joy to experience this other perspective of life in Biddenham. There was a plant stall in the churchyard and delicious teas and cakes were available in the churchyard and barn.

Was the experiment a success? A resounding “yes”! There were scores (maybe hundreds) of visitors, and everybody seemed to enjoy the day, including the garden owners. And, most importantly, the event raised the sum of £876 for *The Friends of St James*. Thank you so much to all the garden owners, the helpers and of course the visitors, who each made the event such a success.

Peter Leverkus



Tea and cakes and the plant sale in the churchyard



See overleaf for more photographs

One glorious July Sunday in Church End



Chris Haydn-Jones' potato patch



Manze's colourful courtyard.



Paige's beautifully stocked garden; their magnificent bamboo is shown below



The pond in McKeown's front garden.



Trounson's lawns.



Dawe's pond and rockery.



The herbaceous border and shady verandah at Burrs.



Fitzhugh's courtyard garden.



Clifton's garden by the church, above & below.

The Old Vicarage, oldest house in Biddenham, with its wealth of history and a well.



Hydrangeas at Trounsons.

The Bedford Bard's Chair

Previously: researching the history of Biddenham girl May Mason, having acquired her medal for good attendance at the village school, I discovered that in August 1916 she had married Welsh soldier Warren Burrows of the Monmouthshire Regiment who was billeted at the Howbury Camp, near Bedford.

The Scottish Highlanders were the first soldiers to be billeted in and around Bedford after war was declared and on their departure the Welsh divisions had arrived.

Looking for more information about the Welsh soldiers' time in Bedford during the Great War, I found there was no single comprehensive source as there is for the Scottish Highlanders' time in Bedford and so decided to have a go at creating such. Thus in 2015 the website 'When the Welsh came to Bedford' was born.

It's still a work in progress and realistically will always be so: it's unlikely ever to include every single small detail that might be out there somewhere!

But it attracts visitors from around the world and questions and comments from those seeking information or with extra colour to add to the content.

Now read on: the most recent contact was from a lady who had been searching for information about the chaired bard at the Eisteddfod held for the Welsh troops in Bedford in April 1916.

She knew that the bardic chair had been won by Private A Jenkins of the 2/1st WCCS, Royal Army Medical Corps. And the website was able to enlighten her that Reverend Private Alfred Jenkins BA from Ardwyn and Presbyterian Minister at Pencoed, had won the bardic chair with his poem on "A Soldier's Life".

There is much more about the Eisteddfod, held in the Skating Rink on the Embankment, on the website including photographs, together with a full report from the Bedfordshire Times and Independent of 28th April 1916, which includes extracts from Alfred's winning poem.

But why was this lady interested in Alfred? It transpired

that as young Welsh exiles in England some decades ago, she and her husband had discovered and bought Alfred's bardic chair in an antique shop in Kent, and over the years had wondered about the man who had won it.

She is back in Wales now, re-learning Welsh and writing her own poetry with some success. And knowing much more now about the Bedford Eisteddfod and the man who won the bardic chair which is today, more than 100 years later, a treasured possession of her family.

Two questions: how did Alfred's chair find its way to an antique shop in Kent? And has a little of the chair's poetic magic rubbed off on this Welsh lady?!



A bardic chair, specially designed and made for the chaired bard of an Eisteddfod, is awarded to the winning entrant in the competition for the *awdl*, a long poem written in a strict metre form known as *cynghanedd*, a complex system of alliteration and internal rhyme.

Alfred's bardic chair was described as a "handsome Jacobean chair" in the 28th April newspaper report. Could it have been designed, made in and brought from Wales, or might it have been designed and made in Bedford, if so by whom? Or in those difficult times was it perhaps a 'handsome' chair in the town that was readily available?

Thank you to the lady from Wales for these photographs of the chair and the engraved plaque on it which reads:

PTE A. Jenkins
Chaired Bard
Bedford Eisteddfod
Easter Monday
1916

which with her story add movingly to the history on the website of the Bedford Eisteddfod and Reverend Private Alfred Jenkins, the chaired bard.

Peter Applewhite

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Biddenham History Society

Richard Crane, who is a friend of Chris Jones, attracted a large audience for his presentation about the coming of the Midland Railway to Bedford in 1868. Richard's enthusiasm for railways made for a lively and informative evening. The superb collection of photographs that he used to illustrate his talk brought back memories for many people and evoked nostalgia for the pre-1959 days of steam engines.

Richard showed how with the coming of the Midland Railway to Bedford in 1868, Bedford became a railway hub. Much of the traffic initially was freight, especially coal. However, in time, particularly after the advent of diesel trains in 1959, there was more and more passenger traffic and stations like Harpenden and St Albans were particularly busy as commuting became an option.

Richard had some excellent photos of the Midland engines in their deep red livery and of the various stations. Bedford station had some interesting features, notably the ornate canopy, which was unfortunately pulled down when the line was electrified in 1979–1980. Richard remembered the old footbridge which conveniently had holes in it. This was very useful to a young lad who loved trains, as he would look through the gaps to train spot and collect engine numbers! Equally useful was a friendship that Richard and his friends made with one of the signalmen. He spent hours in the signal box at the time of GCE 'O' level revision!

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, there were more stations down the line to St Pancras than there are today. Ampthill, for example, had a station, though there were strong objections to the railway coming there, as a poem that Hugh Clifton read out made clear. Some of the stations were impressive architecturally, though they only served a small population, for example, Harlington. Richard did not think much of Luton Station!

The line made its way to St Pancras, up some steep gradients and round several curves. The East Coast line was much flatter and easier to engineer. The Midland Main line was a feat of engineering and ended in a splendid station at St. Pancras. The station was a triumph of Victorian design but it has been fortunate to survive and provide the terminus from some of the trains from Bedford today. Richard had a photograph of bomb damage to St Pancras in May, 1941. Apparently it was quickly repaired. He also had photographs of the restoration work done to St Pancras after it was saved from possible destruction later in the twentieth century, and the excavation work needed to bring the Eurostar trains to London.



St Albans signal box

For those interested in the history of the railway, Richard recommended a visit to St Albans. The signal box there has been beautifully restored and there is a collection of railway artefacts. He also recommended visiting Ridgmont on the Bletchley branch line, where there is also railway memorabilia on display and a good tea room serving tea on vintage china in traditional style. I am sure Richard's talk will inspire us to look more closely at the line and the stations as we travel to and from London and to visit St Albans and Ridgmont.

The next meeting of the Society is on 20th November at 8.00pm in the Church Barn. This is a Wednesday evening when the Biddenham Handbell Ringers usually meet. They will be telling us about the history of handbell ringing in the village and demonstrating techniques of ringing that they use. I hope you will be able to come to hear them.

Kathy Fricker

Village Agent

Are you Struggling? Help is at Hand – Just Ask!

Our Village Agent is here to help older people to access the services and support they might need? Her services are free of charge, and she will phone or visit you at home.

Are You Eligible for Pension Credit?

1.3 million people don't claim this pension top-up, though they are entitled to it. If your weekly income is below £167.25 (single person) or £255.25 (couple) then contact your Village Agent and she will help you to apply.

End of Free TV Licences In June 2020 free TV Licences for over 75s will end, unless you receive Pension Credit, so do claim this if you think you are eligible.

The Blue Badge Scheme is being Extended for Hidden Disabilities. From 30th August drivers and passengers with conditions such as dementia, autism or anxiety disorders will be included; although eligibility will be decided by the local council.

The new guidance includes:

- People who cannot travel without risk of serious harm to their health and safety or someone else's (such as young children with autism).
- People who cannot travel without 'very considerable psychological distress'.
- People who have very considerable difficulty when walking, meaning 'both the physical act and experience of walking'.

If you think you are eligible, contact your Village Agent.

Need Help to Fill in a Form? If you are struggling with paperwork, such as Blue Badge, Council Tax Reduction, Housing Benefit and Attendance Allowance applications, our Village Agent can help you.

Any queries or worries – JUST ASK!

**Contact your Village Agent on Freephone
0800 039 1234**

(This is an answerphone service, so please be ready to leave your name, address & telephone number, & we will aim to call you back within 48 hours.)



barn@2

TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER
CHURCH BARN @ 2PM



SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW
YOUR BUNYANS?

ALL WELCOME - MEMBERS £3 - NON MEMBERS £5



barn@2

That's the way to do it!

Local girl, Claire Slaney, entertained the members of barn@2 during their Summer Social, 'Turkish Delight,' in aid of MAGPAS. And then the members had a go.

The speaker at the next meeting will be Jon Smith whose topic is 'So you think you know your Bunyans?'.
Val Fitzhugh

Biddenham Upper School celebrate A level and GCSE results

Director of sixth form Alan Brown said, "Teachers at the school are delighted by the A level results.

"We are exceptionally pleased that students are able to go to where they want to be on the next step of their journey through life - whether it be university or higher level apprenticeships. The students have worked hard to achieve their results and success and a high proportion achieved their first choice at their preferred university. They have been a lovely group to work with and I am sure they will all go on to do great things. We will miss them and wish them every future happiness."

Top performers included Abi Walters with one A* and three A grades; she has accepted a place at Birmingham University to do chemical engineering and Michael Jones earned two As and a B to earn a place at Southampton studying computer science.

Biddenham says they've also achieved their best ever GCSE results, with the school's Science and RS grades being particularly notable with considerable success in the higher grades.

The following students achieved 7 to 9 grades (A*A) in many of their subjects: Niko Turner, Alfie Rushby, Simas Macys, Aiden Tse, Emmanuel Azare, Robin Masih, Fergus Armstrong, Sahar Houssaini, Freddie Maroney, Lukasz Wrzeszczynski and Ameisha Begum.

Head of School, Eleanor Grylls commented, "As every year we are incredibly proud of the achievements of our students - who through hard work and a love of learning - allow themselves to achieve great things and realise their dreams and ambitions.

"A special mention must go to the staff team at Biddenham who have worked tirelessly to ensure the highest levels of success for all our students - it's a potent partnership and we look forward to working with them over the next two years of Sixth Form study."

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This month in the garden

August was the month of the big wind. Most people probably avoided major damage but there was enough to stir things up in the garden. Some of my dahlias were spoiled and I just got to the vegetables in time to stop the line of runner beans being blown down. It was a salutary reminder of the importance of providing support for plants and checking that the support hasn't been outgrown. Many of us start sticking in stakes and tying things in when plants start flopping about but that is really too late. Ideally the support needs to be in place before a plant has grown much and of sufficient height and strength to deal with the plant when it is fully grown. For dahlias, that means strong stakes driven into the ground in the planting hole before the tubers are planted so that the tubers are not damaged. Shoots can then be tied in to the stake as growth develops. It is also a good idea to cut out any new shoots from the base once the main structure is established to prevent overcrowding. For many perennials, support can be provided before growth gets going by covering the area of the plant with raised netting fixed to fairly low vertical wooden supports or, if you can get young hazel branches, by weaving a mesh of twigs over the plant. This type of support takes a bit of trouble but it is strong and nearly invisible when the plant grows up. A couple of my runner beans were uprooted when the bamboo framework started going over and I could have prevented this by pegging in a couple of guy lines when high wind was forecast.

For many parts of the country August was also a month of damagingly heavy rainfall but, although we have had some wet days, I have been surprised to find how dry our soil is. That may not be the case for those of you on clay but my soil on the river gravel is very sandy and it dries out quickly. That means checking the soil from time to time and giving needy plants a good drenching. This applies particularly to anything newly planted, especially trees and shrubs. Don't forget trees planted on verges. The council do water them nowadays but not always enough to stop them drying out. A good soak spaced out a bit is always better than frequent superficial watering. Try to water in the evening or early morning to give the water a chance to soak in rather than evaporate quickly and encourage shallow root growth.

Although 'little and often' isn't a good rule for most watering it does apply to dead-heading many perennials, bedding plants and roses. Plants look better without tatty dead blooms and you will get more generous flowering, as plants that have set seed will feel they have done their job and don't need to produce any more flowers. Where you are troubled by plants given to promiscuous self-seeding you need to get in early and cut off the dying flower heads before they set seed.

For vegetables this is mainly a time for harvesting but

you can look ahead and sow winter lettuce and brassicas for spring. Taste rather than size is the aim for most vegetables so keep an eye on your crops and gather them young. Courgettes are particularly keen to turn into marrows overnight when you aren't looking. The hot dry conditions this year have not been good for runner beans. They need copious watering and setting the beans can be helped by spraying with a fine spray in the evening.

If you haven't already done your spring bulb ordering on line, bulbs will now be in the garden centres in profusion. Most can be planted straight away but remember that it is best to leave planting tulips until November when they will be less vulnerable to blight. If you are not too bothered about choice of variety or later flowering, you can often get a bargain by buying late; most bulbs will still flower.

The Biddenham Show will be on us only a week after you receive your copy of The Loop but have a look at the Show brochure and see what you have got in the garden that you could enter. The more entries there are, the greater the enjoyment for visitors and the thrill of winning is always better in the face of strong competition. Judging is on the basis of what any of us can grow in our gardens and no fancy molly-coddling or preparation of plants is necessary.

Jeremy Arthern

St James's Church Biddenham Harvest Festival

6 October

All Age Service

9.00am

Donations of
food taken for the
Bedford Foodbank/
homeless shelters

Monetary donations to the
Bishop of St Albans' Harvest
Appeal "Light up Tanzania"
Raising money to help bring
solar electricity to the poor
and isolated rural
communities of the Singida
region of Tanzania

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**Don't forget the
Foodbank**

Bedford
foodbank

Please continue to bring in-date
non-perishable food. The container
is at the back of the church.

You can find the latest list of items needed by Bedford
food bank at [https:// bedford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/
donate-food/](https://bedford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/)

Biddenham Parish Council

The most recent Parish Council Meeting was held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 in the upstairs room of the Pavilion. Present were Parish Councillors Graham Bates, Stewart Briggs, Peter Chase (Chairman), Chris Gee, Alan Jacobs, Krys Osuch and Francia Slade. Borough Councillor Jon Gambold, Clerk Lyn Lyman and 17 members of the public were also present. Councillors Harry Fowler and Joe Warren sent their apologies.



Have your say

It was great to see so many people at the July meeting, all with different points to raise. So much so, we had trouble fitting everyone into the upstairs meeting room. We hope to sort out as many issues as we can, but I am still wondering why they all got bottled up until this one meeting! Do please come along to *any* Parish Council, and have your say.

A first point raised concerned the netting recently erected by the Tennis Club around their courts on the edge of the Pavilion playing field. Neighbours' views onto the open space had been blocked as a result, and the question asked was whether such netting was really permissible. Subsequent investigations show that it is, and that the logo adorning it is not advertising – just the brand name of the manufacturer. On balance, the Tennis Club has acted within its rights to prevent general vegetation detritus from going all over their playing surface – that not just being a problem in the autumn, as you might think, but year-round due to stormy weather such as has occurred recently (during our typical English summer).

Dog wardens are employed by the Borough Council, and these are being consulted about the next problem raised, namely canine poop along Deep Spinney. Folk at the meeting said they'd never seen it so bad, although observing the culprits (owners, not just their dogs) has

been difficult. Some suspect foxes may be contributing to the issue.

Heavy goods vehicles are straying into the wrong parts of the village, trying to find new areas that aren't yet on drivers' satnavs. Some artics have even become stuck down Church End and had great trouble extricating themselves. We are looking into the strategic placement of some warning signs, basically saying whatever you're looking for, it isn't down here!

Weeds in gutters are sprouting here and there again, and our sensitivity to spraying weedkiller all over the place means they will probably do so every year. A word has been had with Chris Horne, who manages our verges, and weed Armageddon will take place soon.

Development developments

New, unacceptable developments have been proposed off Church End and Vicars Close, and we are submitting our objections to these. In both cases, the land to be built on is supposedly protected by Borough's 'AD43' policy. This seeks to protect land from development in order to preserve "urban open spaces" between settlements such as ours and Great Denham.

Given the Borough's cavalier attitude to upholding this policy west of Gold Lane, we are looking to object on as many other grounds as possible. In the case of Church End, that means pointing out that demolishing a house to create an access road seriously contravenes the protections afforded to a conservation area (the clue is in the name!).

The 160 houses approved to be built off Gold Lane continues to trouble us all. The meeting considered our options, and it now feels like we are having to fight a rear-guard action to try to mitigate the worst excess of the whole thing, namely the road access into it off Gold Lane. As I have reported previously, the Borough are determined this estate is to be built, and no arguments put in their way are given any credible consideration.

For our part, we continue to point out the unsafe nature of the road access proposed and have had a further professional report written to point this out. We are also continuing to ask why it would be so difficult to have this access off Deep Spinney instead. Disappointingly, neither of these points are being considered seriously.

And as if nothing could get any worse, the date in early September approaches when the Planning Inspectorate will be considering the developer's appeal to overturn the refusal of their earlier application for 250 houses. In this bonkers world where no rules seem to apply, it's anyone's guess whether Borough will be able to defend their original decision to refuse that one. Given they have subsequently said it's ok to build a slightly smaller number of houses in the same place, we should not be over hopeful.

Sport

Graham Brown, representing Kingsfield Sports Club, spoke to our meeting about the sports facility off the Great Ouse Way bypass. This got off to a false start a year ago when it turned out some of the pitches had not been laid correctly, and injuriously large stones were rising to the surface and masquerading as rugby balls.

The housing developer, who has responsibility for seeing the facility becomes established and well run, now has to choose between three alternative parties vying to manage the place – and as the PC we have been offered a place on the committee that will provide governance.

Our next meeting

We meet every second Wednesday of most months at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney, and very much welcome hearing from residents. There is a public "open session" near the start for anyone wanting to say something. Please come along and let us know anything concerning you about our village, or just come and listen. The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th September.

Peter Chase
Chairman

Friends of St Owen's Parish Church

present

Vauxhall

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Proceeds to St Owen's Building Project

Peter's Picturehouse 'What we did on our holiday'

If you have missed the summer film showings of Peter's Picturehouse then don't worry, a warm welcome awaits you at Biddenham village hall on Tuesday 3rd September. We start our autumn season off with the heart-warming and uplifting comedy-drama, 'What we did on our holiday', which was inspired by the BBC TV series, Outnumbered. A big family gathering for a 75th Birthday party in Scotland results in several family tensions, both hilarious and emotional. With Billy Connolly playing a grandad 'You need to live more and think less' whose grandchildren love and say anything to, a few secrets leak out and ... well you will have to come along and see how it all turns out!

Also starring David Tennant, Rosamund Pike and Ben Millar along with Celia Imrie and Annette Crosbie, this is a certificate 12 film.

As usual, we will be opening the doors at 7.00pm on the first Tuesday in September and serving tea, coffee, wine, beer and soft drinks as well as the ever popular ice creams before the film and in the interval. The film showing starts at 7:30pm with tickets priced at £5 each.

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The Three Tuns, Biddenham

Sadly, health issues mean Peter and Kati are leaving the pub. Their last day will be 30th September and the pub will be open as usual until then. There will be very limited restaurant facilities until 4th September due to holidays so please call ahead if you wish to eat.

Bookings: 01234 354847



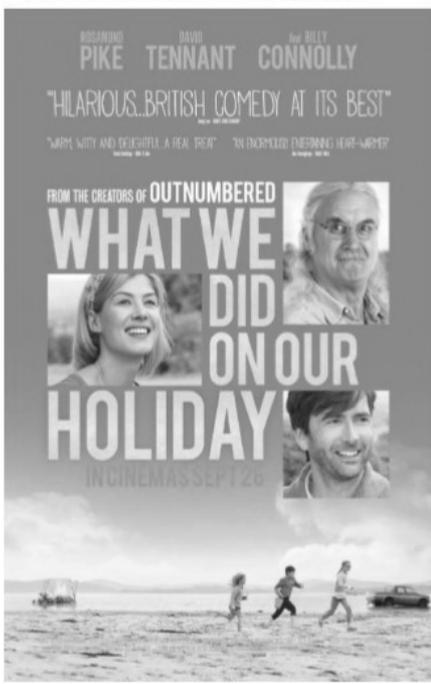


Peter's Picturehouse
proudly presents

Date: **Tuesday 3rd September 2019** Ticket price: **£5**

Bar Open: **7:00pm**
Film Showing Starts: **7:30pm**

Location: **Biddenham Village Hall.**



Certificate: **12**

If you need a lift to the Village Hall in order to see the film, please phone Marihelen on 07710288933

Peter's Picturehouse

In October: **Love and Mercy**

On: **Tuesday 1st October**
Bar open: **7.00 pm**, film showing starts **7:30pm**

Café B...



Tuesday 17th September

*Biddenham Village Hall
10.30 am - 12.00 noon*

*Selection of teas, coffees,
hot chocolate and juice
Home baked cakes
Book Swap*

Next café 15th October

Biddenham Gardeners Association

Annual General Meeting

This took place on Tuesday 16th July. After a short business meeting when Paul Fricker was voted to be the next Chair of the BGA and all Members of the Committee were re-elected to serve in office for the forthcoming year, we welcomed.....

Charmaine Norrish, Senior Community Fund Raiser for the British Red Cross in Bedfordshire, to talk about the work of the Red Cross including their involvement with the Open Gardens Scheme.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the biggest humanitarian movement in the world, started in 1863 and was inspired by the Swiss businessman Henry Dunant who had been moved by the suffering of thousands of men following the Battle of Solferino. He proposed the creation of national relief societies, made up of volunteers, trained in peacetime to provide neutral and impartial help to relieve suffering in time of war. The founding charter of the Red Cross was drawn up in Geneva where it was proposed that countries adopt an international agreement which would recognise the status of medical services and the wounded on the battlefield. This agreement, the original Geneva Convention, was adopted in 1864. Following the outbreak of war between France and Prussia in 1870 there was a call for a National Society to be formed in Britain in line with other European nations. In this year the British Red Cross was formed based upon the rules laid down in the Geneva Convention.

Charmaine outlined the work of the Red Cross today. This includes event first aid, provision of a fire and emergency support service, with safe places to stay and packs of basic necessities as well as emotional support for those who have lost their homes through fire. Emotional support for those affected by floods, bombings and distraction burglaries. Independence support for those discharged from hospital. Medical loans of wheel chairs, walking aids etc. Community based first aid training, refugee services, message and tracing service for people who have lost touch with their families, support for those experiencing loneliness and isolation - the list goes on and on.

Funding for all this work is achieved through Red Cross collection weeks, local events, challenge events, recycling, individual giving, emergency appeals, legacies, and through the Open Gardens Scheme. Since 2008 Bedfordshire has been involved in this scheme and residents of Biddenham have opened their gardens to the public on a number of occasions in support of this very worthy charity. We were pleased to be told that last year the open gardens in Biddenham took the largest amount of money in any one day. We were pleased also to present Charmaine with a cheque.

After the talk members enjoyed a very nice cheese and wine buffet. Many thanks to Liz Hurford for organising this.

Ann Ebbs and Ann Manze, who have organised the tea rota for a number of years, are now having a well earned rest and we thank them for their hard work in making sure that refreshments have been available at our meetings.

During the business section of the meeting Jeremy Arthern announced that he would be standing down from the Chairmanship of the BGA. Jeremy joined the BGA Committee in 2006 and for the last 7 years has been our Chairman. Jeremy has been unfailing in his support to the Association and has led the Committee and the monthly Visiting Speaker meetings with enthusiasm and commitment. Jeremy will be much missed as Chair, although he has assured us that he will still be a regular attendee at the Tuesday meetings. However, we are delighted that Paul Fricker, who was co-opted onto the Committee this year, has agreed to take over from Jeremy and the Committee look forward to working with him in the future to ensure that members are offered interesting and informative talks in a happy, welcoming Association.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 17th September when Darren Lerigo will be answering the question "What do I do with this space?" We assume he means in your garden and not in the spare room or loft! Please do join us - just come along to the Village Hall for a 7.30 pm start - you will be made very welcome.

Linda Truscott

New members and visitors are always welcome. For more information contact **Linda Truscott** on 01234 270747.

www.biddenhamgardenersassociation.org.uk

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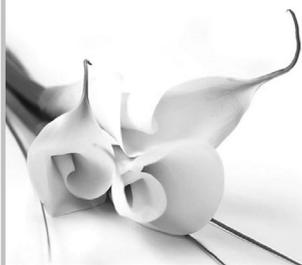
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The Friends of St James
- the charity which helps conserve the church, churchyard and barn for future generations

Membership Treasurer

Peter Leverkus
 Paul Fricker

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First Friday Lunch



Soup, sandwich or baked potato, pudding and a drink, on the first Friday of every month in Biddenham Village Hall from 12.30pm **£7.00**

Draw for 2 free lunch tickets every month
Book swap
Friday, 6th September, 4th October

To book: email firstfridaylunch@outlook.com
Or text/leave a message on **07412 559584**

100 CLUB



June draw

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Kate Jones | 475 |
| 2. David Watson | 93 |
| 3. Glenn Taylor | 46 |

Drawn by Kathy Fricker

July draw

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Paula Edwards | 38 |
| 2. Sajid Ahmed | 8 |
| 3. Stephen Gilder | 36 |

Drawn by Gina Makela

Welcome Packs for

New Biddenham Residents

Contact Richard Church Tel: 214805

Hall Booking Details

Biddenham Village Hall

From the Village Hall website you can check availability on the diary, look at the facilities and download a booking form. Contact details for regular events are also there. www.biddenhamvillagehall.org.uk

Church Barn

Contact the Booking Officer, Jan Burns on 344019 or janburns@gmx.com if you would like to hire the barn. Smaller than the Village Hall, it is ideal for a small party or meeting.

Pavilion

The hall is available for children's parties, anniversary lunches, christening receptions, meetings etc. We can also hire the small upstairs meeting room which has tea and coffee making facilities. Booking enquiries to biddenhampavilion@hotmail.co.uk or Debs Slade on 07808 579330.

Great Denham Community Hall

www.greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk

Regular Events in Biddenham

Monday

10.00am	Cha Char Chimps	Village Hall
10.00am	Yoga	Pavilion
2.30pm	Cardiac Rehab exercise	Pavilion
6.30pm	Pilates	Pavilion
6.30pm	Mat Pilates	Church Barn
7.15pm	Guides (term-time)	Village Hall
7.45pm	Martial Arts	Pavilion

Tuesday

10.00am	Art	Church Barn
10.00am	Personal Fitness	Pavilion
4.00pm	Ballet (term-time)	Village Hall
7.00pm	Personal Fitness/Circuits	Pavilion
8.00pm	Country Dancing (2nd & 4th in month)	Village Hall

Wednesday

9.45am	Hopping Bunnies (music for toddlers)	Pavilion
10.00am	Tai Chi	Church Barn
10.00,11.00 & 12.00	Baby College (term-time)	Village Hall
2.00pm	Table Tennis	Pavilion
2.30pm	Art	Church Barn
6.30pm	Aerobics	Pavilion
6.30pm	Handbell Ringing Practice	Church Barn
7.30pm	Ballroom Dancing (term-time)	Village Hall

Thursday

9.45am	Hopping Bunnies (music for toddlers)	Pavilion
9.30-11.30am	Under 5's (term-time)	Village Hall
2.00pm	U3A Handbells	Church Barn
2.00pm	Love to Dance	Pavilion
7.00pm	Fit-Steps	Pavilion
7.30pm	Whist (2nd & 4th in month)	Village Hall

Friday

8.30 & 9.30am	Pilates	Village Hall
9.30am	Jo Jingles (Children's musical group)	Pavilion
11.00am	Mother & Baby Yoga (except 1st Friday)	Village Hall
3.30-7.30pm	Ballet classes (term-time)	Village Hall
1.45-4.45pm	Duplicate Bridge	Church Barn
7.00pm	Martial Arts	Pavilion
7.00pm	Choir Practice	Church Barn
8.00pm	Tango	Village Hall

Saturday

9.30am	Pregnancy Yoga	Village Hall
9.30am	Zumba	Pavilion
10.45am	Zumbini	Pavilion

Sunday

9.00 -10.00am	Explorers	Church Barn
7.30pm	Karma Yoga	Village Hall

For regular events at Great Denham Community Hall, go to www.greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk/



Mobile Library



Great Denham Community Centre

Saturdays, 7th, 21st September
2.20pm-2.40pm

Biddenham

Thursdays, 12th, 26th September
Church End 10.00am-10.20am
Nodders Way 10.25am-10.50am

Remember your library card!

September

- Sun 1 Sep** All Age Service with baptism, St James's, **9.00am**,
Holy Communion St James's, **6.00pm**
- Mon 2 Sep Great Denham Parish Council meeting, GD Community Hall, 7.30pm, see p7
- Tue 3 Sep Beginners Bridge, Wixams Retirement Village, 10.00am-12.00, see p3
- Tue 3 Sep Peter's Picturehouse, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p17
- Fri 6 Sep First Friday Lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p19
- Fri 6 Sep Children's cinema, Great Denham Community Hall, 3.00pm, see p7
- Fri 6 Sep Quiz and pop up pub, Great Denham Community Hall, 8.30pm, see p7
- Sat 7 Sep Mobile Library, Great Denham Community Centre, 2.20-2.40pm, see p19
- Sun 8 Sep** Parish Communion with speaker from the Church Missionary Society, St James's, **9.00am**
Evening Prayer, All Saints, **6.00pm**
- Sun 8 Sep Litter Pick, Great Denham Community Hall, 10.00am-12.00, see p7
- Sun 8 Sep Biddenham Show, St James' School & Biddenham Village Hall, 12.00-4.00pm, see p4
- Tue 10 Sep barn@2, Church Barn, 2.00pm, see p14
- Wed 11 Sep Biddenham Parish Council, Biddenham Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p16
- Thu 12 Sep Mobile Library, Biddenham, see p19
- Sat 14 Sep Vauxhall Male Voice Choir, Bromham Baptist Church, 2.30pm, see p16
- Sun 15 Sep** Parish Communion, St James's, **9.00am**
All Age Worship, St James's Church Barn, **4.00pm**
Evening Prayer, St James's, **6.00pm**
- Tue 17 Sep Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am-12.00noon, see p17
- Tue 17 Sep Bedford National Trust Association, Addison Centre, Kempston, 2.30pm, see p8
- Tue 17 Sep Messy Church, St James's Church Barn, 4.30-6.00pm, see p7
- Tue 17 Sep Biddenham Gardeners Association, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.30pm, see p18
- Thu 19 Sep Friends of Tibbs launch, Sharnbrook Hotel, see p3
- Sat 21 Sep Mobile Library, Great Denham Community Centre, 2.20-2.40pm, see p19
- Sun 22 Sep** Parish Communion with baptism, St James's, **9.00am**
No evening service
- Thu 26 Sep Mobile Library, Biddenham, see p19
- Sun 22 Sep** Parish Communion, St James's, **9.00am**
No evening service

October

- Fri 4 Oct First Friday Lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p19
- Sat 5 Oct Quiz Night, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.30pm, see p5
- Sun 6 Oct** Harvest Festival, All Age Service, St James's, **9.00am**, see p15
Holy Communion St James's, **6.00pm**
- Mon 7 Oct Great Denham Parish Council meeting, GD Community Hall, 7.30pm, see p7
- Sat 12 Oct Heart & Music, St James's Church, 7.30pm, see p7
- Tue 15 Oct Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am-12.00noon, see p17
- Tue 15 Oct Messy Church, St James's Church Barn, 4.30-6.00pm, see p7
- Sat 19 Oct Autumn supper, St James Church Barn, 7.30pm, see p2
- Tue 22 Oct Creepy crafts, Great Denham Community Hall, see p7
- Fri 25 Oct Monster Mash Kids Disco, Great Denham Community Hall, see p7

November

- Fri 1 Nov Freaky film, Great Denham Community Hall, see p7
- Sun 3 Nov Biddenham Society AGM, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p3
- Wed 20 Nov Biddenham History Society, Church Barn, 8.00pm, see p13
- Sat 30 Nov Comedy Night, Great Denham Community Hall, see p7

The Loop

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All **October** articles, preferably by e-mail in Word format, to loopeditor@gmail.com or to 22 Day's Lane and adverts to 3 Queen's Close (cj.sugars@talktalk.net) by **Thursday 19th September please.**



The views expressed in 'The Loop' by various community groups do not necessarily represent the views of St James's Church or the Parochial Church Council.

For regular events listings see page 19