

The Loop

October
2021

£1.00

Tony Wood retiring as Chairman of The Biddenham Society

After 14 years as Chairman of The Biddenham Society, Tony Wood will be stepping down at the AGM in November.

Biddenham has seen a huge amount of change in that time and you can read Tony's reflections on his period of service on page 9.

Details of the AGM are on page 11.



Poppies for Remembrance Day

As our crocheted and knitted flowers for Mothering Sunday were such a success this year, it would be great to be able to do something similar for Remembrance Day. But, this time we would like everyone to get involved – young and old!

If you can knit or crochet, we would love you to make lots of knitted/crocheted poppies. The illustration above is taken from the Royal British Legion website. They are promoting a new range of poppy themed kits and digital patterns which are now available to buy and download from [Deramores](https://www.deramores.com), where you can choose to make your own poppy brooches, poppy cushion covers or cascading poppy blankets – with a percentage of every sale donated to the Legion.

There are also plenty of free patterns around on the internet for all levels, but if you don't have access to the internet and would like a simple pattern, please do get in touch with me and I will print one off for you.

If you can't knit/crochet, can you make pompoms instead? If you use red and black wool you can get them to look like poppies (or alternatively just use red wool and use a black marker pen or a button to make the poppy centre)!

Once you have made your poppies, please either leave them in the porch at St James's Church, or drop them off at 27 St Mellion Drive, Great Denham (again they can be left in the porch).

Happy knitting/crocheting/pompomming (is that a word?)!

Jacqui Piper
356993



Services at St James's

There are some changes to the schedule of services being held at St James's and All Saints this month so please check the What's On section.

The Bishop of Bedford, Rt Revd Richard Atkinson will be leading the Holy Communion service at St James's on 17th October.

Sunday 31st October is a special day starting with the Service of Wholeness and Healing at St James's at 9.30am and followed by the All Souls service at St James's at 6.00pm.

Zoom services will continue on Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

What's On is on the back page.



Rt Revd Richard Atkinson..

Photo:
stalbans.anglican.org



Save the date for
the return of the
Village Quiz
Saturday 27th
November

'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



ALL SOULS SERVICES

Sunday 31 October

4.00pm at All Saints Church, Kempston

6.00pm at St James's Church, Biddenham

All Welcome!



**Remembering our loved ones
who have died**



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

Vicar	Rev Eric Lomax rev.ejlomax@gmail.com	Tel: 328452
Readers	Christopher Dawe Paul Fricker Sue Richards	Tel 363890 Tel 342843
Churchwardens	Laurie Hurn Lois Price	Tel 364251 Tel 961826
Verger	Hilary Hurn	Tel 364251
Secretary	Jacqui Piper	Tel 356993
Treasurer	Michael Hurford	Tel 271746
Organist/Choirmaster	Graham Weeks	Tel 07552 052840
www.stjamesbiddenham.com		

Letter from the Vicar

Dear All

About five or six weeks ago I was asked to read at the funeral of a very elderly Christian who, while saintly, always kept her mind on the traditions of the church. She was fond of the old language of the Book of Common Prayer and the Authorised Version of the Bible which many people see as having a more poetic feel to it than the triviality of modern translations. People who say this are, to be blunt, wrong. This is because language, and the English language is no different, is a shifting tide that moves and changes with time. A word that meant one thing four hundred years ago, so often means something completely different in the 21st century.

The reading I was given was 1 Corinthians 13. This is a reading that I am often asked to read at weddings because in the modern versions of the Bible it talks about 'love.' When Paul wrote this passage, he used the Greek word 'Agape,' something which is not that easy to translate into English but, for the best part, 'love' seems to work. He wrote, 'If I speak in the tongues of people and of angels but have no love, I am a noise gong or clanging cymbal'. Four hundred years ago, in the Authorised Version, the translators wrote 'Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.'

As I read it I thought of all the people in the congregation who understand 'charity' as having enough money to give a little of that to others. In our modern world charity in essence means something that we do to those who have little. The powerful and the wealthy donate to those who have little, and that is charity. It is a social virtue imposed by the rich upon the poor. The counter virtue, therefore, is that the poor have to be grateful for what they are given. In my last parish I was involved in a link with the churches in South India, Tamil Nadu, and one of the places I would visit was St Luke's Leprosarium in Peikulam. In the scorching heat of South India, with grey dusty roads lined with every kind of human waste, the staff of the Leprosarium did their best to care for those with leprosy, a condition which had officially been eradicated by the Indian Government (though clearly not). The first time I visited I was appalled to see how the names of donors were placed on posts above the patient's beds as trophies of kindness, whereas our giving should be as anonymous as those who are unable to give. (Matthew 6:7)

Those who composed the scriptures did a very nice job of losing the context of almost everything that was written by adding chapter and verse numbers, a bit like the principle that one way of guaranteeing a presentation loses its meaning and context is to put it into bullet points.

The context of 1 Corinthians 13 is that Paul was addressing a group of people who were more concerned about their egos than about how they could use their gifts to build up everybody around them. Paul gave them a ticking off and then said 'Let me show you a much better way; if you have the most amazing gifts but have no love then you are being no use, but rather just making a loud noise' (paraphrased). This love he was talking about was not like our modern understanding of charity which talks about giving a little of what we have. Paul is talking about a group of people who enter a community, and are expected to share everything they have in mutual care for one another. The gifts that we all have are there for each of us, and all power is stripped away in the name of God who emptied himself in Jesus Christ, for the sake of the world.

Eric



Bromham Mill re-opens

The coffee shop at Bromham Mill re-opened on 28th August. A long term lease for the Mill and its grounds from Bedford Borough Council is being finalised. Bromham Parish Council and Bromham Mill Trust are fully committed to improving the amenity of the area.

The Mill has a new look with outdoor bench seating and extended seating areas inside. Customers can relax on traditional seating or comfy sofas and enjoy use of free WIFI.



The Children's Society boxes

The situation with Coronavirus continues to raise problems for the October box collection this year and I will not be collecting and counting boxes. However, please continue your support and hopefully next year the boxes will be emptied!

In the meantime, if any box holder wishes to make a donation for this year either, put a cheque, made out to The Children's Society, through my door (2, Day's Lane), which I will happily pass on to the Society or, send your donation direct to The Children's Society, Supporter Care Team, 50 Banner Street, London, EC1Y 8ST.

Thank you very much.

Eloise Carter

From Our Biddenham Village Agent

Our Village Agent, Teresa Moon, is here to help older people in Bedford Borough villages to access the services and support they might need. Her services are confidential and free and she can visit you at home. Just call Freephone 0800 039 1234.



Reminiscence Mornings at The Higgins Bedford

The Higgins is re-starting their friendly reminiscence coffee mornings - a great way to meet new people and be inspired by memories and stories of the past.

- **Going to Town:** - Part 1 Off to the Shops - Thurs 14th October, 11am
- **Going to Town:** - Part 2 The Embankment - Thurs 18th November, 11am

Free Entry, Refreshments £1, Booking Essential

To book your place, telephone 01234 718618 and ask to speak to Lydia Saul.

Are You Getting Enough State Pension?

The minimum income that people over State Pension age should be receiving is £177.10 a week if you live alone, or £270.30 for a couple. If your income is below this, you may be eligible for Pension Credit, which is a 'gateway' benefit which also entitles you to further help (so it is worth claiming even if you are borderline). Other benefits include:-

- Free TV licence for over-75s - worth £159
- Council tax reduction
- Warm home discount and cold weather payments
- Free home insulation and boiler grants - worth £1,000s for some
- Free NHS dental treatment
- Voucher for glasses/contact lenses - worth £39-£215 depending on prescription

Additionally, you may be able to get other deals, such as a discount on your water bill or a cut-price phone/broadband tariff. You can also access the BT Basic phone service, which charges just £5.16/month for line rental, including a £1.50 call allowance.

Need help with filling in forms?

If you are struggling with paperwork, such as Blue Badge, Bus Pass or Attendance Allowance applications, just call Freephone 0800 039 1234.

Would a helpful gadget make your life easier?

We have a range of handy gadgets to distribute free of charge, including a jar opener; button hook and zip puller; automatic night light; potato peeler; handy reacher; extra-long shoe horn or seat belt helper. Just call and ask for the item you would like.

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, and I will aim to call you back within 48 hours.)



Café B...



Tuesday 19th October

Biddenham Village Hall

10.30 am - 12.00 noon

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Bedford Town Youth Football at Kings Field

A lot has happened since my letter in February regarding the Biddenham Kings Field Sports facility. As you know, we have signed a lease for the site with the landlord, Vistry Homes. Scanlans, the management company working for Vistry Homes, should now have informed residents that they are no longer being charged for the upkeep and maintenance costs of the Kings Field site, the responsibility for this now sits with us (Bedford Town FC Youth Development) as part of the lease.

It is great to see that, after the stops and starts due to the pandemic, we are getting back to a level of normality for grassroots football, and a full programme for our teams.

The Club has grown and now has 25 teams playing, ranging from Under 7s up to and including Under 18s. Most weekends there is a flurry of activity and a buzz at the Kings Field site as teams play their matches on the four pitches available. Additionally, we are running our Saturday morning Soccer Club for children ages 4 to 8, under the guidance of our fantastic coaches Omar

Christian, Connor Tomlinson (1st team player for Bedford Town), and Graeme Tomlinson (Manchester United's Class of 92). Connor also runs the Holiday Soccer Camps, supported by Craig Mackail-Smith (1st team player and former Scottish international); these have been a great success. For more information on these activities please check out the Bedford Town FC – Youth Development Facebook page.

We are now working with our pitch maintenance contractors (the Borough Council) to create some additional pitches so the full use of the site footprint will be available.

We are also working hard to bring the Pavilion up to speed. Litter bins have been installed and the grass is cut on a regular basis. Our biggest challenge is to equip the facility with the necessary furniture to host events. Café services are now being offered on match days, providing welcome hot and cold refreshments for spectators, we are preparing an application for an Alcohol Licence and have introduced an online Booking system for the offerings we currently have. These are limited at the moment, for more details please see the Bedford Town FC website under Venue Hire.

A lot has been achieved in such a short time and we are proud of how the site looks and the facilities we are providing for youth football.

We need your help

Our priority is the enjoyment and wellbeing of the children in our teams, who play on the pitches. Unfortunately, we continue to see a small minority of people who continue to allow their dogs to use the pitch areas as a toilet. The risk of infections from dog faeces is well documented – it can cause intestinal diseases, and roundworms, potentially leading to blindness. We want to be clear on this matter – anyone who continues to use our site as a toilet area for their animals, ignoring all the signs we have put up and leaving the mess on the pitches and surrounding areas is not welcome on the site, please stay away.

To tackle this behaviour we will be working with the Borough Council and will be looking to enforce fines for dog-fouling; there is CCTV on site and we will be able to provide evidence of incidences if needed.

We are very grateful to those people that do walk their dogs on the site and who respect the signs by keeping their dogs on a lead and off the pitches, and by picking up any mess that may happen. However, we are sure that the local community will also support us in not tolerating continued dog fouling, and will help us to eradicate this unacceptable behaviour.

A final note of thanks

We look forward to working with the local community as we build up the Kings Field facility.

Ward Councillors Roger Rigby and Jon Gambold are providing support to help us create an area on site for local children to use for a kickabout, including goals, so that we can keep the main pitches for our youth matches. And a very particular thank you to Biddenham Parish Council for their support and for providing us with a Defibrillator for the site, which is currently being installed. This is a fantastic gesture thank you once again!

Dennis O'Meara

Bedford Town FC Youth Liaison & Facility Management
d.omeara@btinternet.com

No Fear Duplicate Bridge in the Village Hall



Fridays at 2.30 p.m. (intermediates)

Sundays at 6 p.m.

Contact Bernard Henry

07866 456769

bahenry0309@gmail.com

Don't forget the Foodbank IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES THE NEED IS URGENT

You can find the latest list of items needed by Bedford food bank and details of how to make a financial donation at <https://bedford.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Biddenham History Society

Prehistoric Biddenham

In 2012 when he kindly contributed a chapter on Ancient Life in the Biddenham Loop to the history of Biddenham, 'The Village of Biddenham Through the Ages', Professor Pat McKeown referred to the work of Mike Luke, project manager of Albion Archaeology. In his talk to a meeting in Biddenham pavilion in October 2010, Mike Luke had said that 'the Biddenham Loop is famous amongst archaeologists and pre-historians'. Biddenham village occupies only a small area in the west of the meandering 180 degree loop of the River Great Ouse. Mike's surveys and open area excavations up to 2010 were concentrated in the area of the Loop that is now Great Denham. In 1996 he had surveyed 18 hectares on behalf of Bovis Homes Ltd; then 9 hectares in advance of the Western bypass (The Branton Way) and in 2007 over 66 hectares for David Wilson Homes. The latter involved some 40 investigators and took just over a year.

Mike Luke found evidence of settlement from the Middle Stone Age (12,000 to 7,500 years ago), but most significantly he found evidence of Neolithic or New Stone Age settlement (7,500 to 5,500 years ago) as well as Bronze Age settlement (4,500 to 2,700 years ago). He identified mortuary enclosures and monuments which probably served funerary or ceremonial functions. The number and types of monuments and burials found in the Loop from the Neolithic to the early Bronze Age show that it had progressively become a 'ritual landscape comparable to that around Stonehenge'.

These findings have been added to in 2021. On 7th August 2021 Alex Pope posted an article on BBC News East website. He had talked to Iain Leslie, now project manager for Albion Archaeology. Albion had been carrying out investigations in a field in Biddenham in conjunction with RPS Consulting Services, on behalf of builders Dandara. Planning consent had been given for house building on the site, with a condition that an archaeological dig was to take place, with the findings recorded before construction could start.

Iain Leslie said that a Neolithic monument had been found on the site. It is thought to have been constructed about 6,000 years ago and very likely 'provided a focus for ceremonial and ritual activities.' It would have formed part of a wider landscape of similar monuments known to have existed locally within the Loop of the River Great Ouse. Mr Leslie said that evidence of an Iron Age (2,700 – 2,000 years ago) settlement was also found, including several storage pits and a roundhouse. The most unexpected discovery was not prehistoric but the presence of 'relatively extensive Anglo-Saxon remains with a sunken-featured building and an oven'. 'As archaeologists we are very excited about the findings,' Mr Leslie said. 'The investigations have revealed a wealth of information about the previous inhabitants of the area, stretching back as much as 6,000 years. The remains offer a fantastic addition to our knowledge of Neolithic, early Bronze Age, Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon settlement in the area.'

More archaeological investigation has been undertaken since the report on BBC News East was posted. We await further information and detailed results of the surveys. It looks as if we will be able to add to what we could write about the early history of Biddenham when 'The Village of Biddenham Through the Ages' was published in 2012.

Kathy Fricker

Andrew Charles

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Biddenham Parish Council

The most recent Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 21st September 2021 at the Pavilion. Present at the meeting were Parish Councillors Graham Bates, Stewart Briggs, Peter Chase, Chris Gee, Harry Fowler, Alan Jacobs and Francia Slade. Apologies were received from Krzys Osuch and Councillor Rigby. The Clerk, David Brough, and our Borough Councillor, Jon Gambold were also present.

Parish Council Meeting

I am pleased to report attendance from the public was up 100% from the last meeting with a member of the public present to hear our various discussions.

A key theme that seemed to be running through many items on the agenda concerned trees and vegetation. The Councillors discussed the proposed removal of two trees in the village; one in Deep Spinney that had partially collapsed and has subsequently been removed back to a stump and one still standing. The latter is one of the large trees on Kings Corner and its removal (due to it being diseased) will have quite an impact on the street scene. The good news is the Borough Council will be replacing the trees albeit they will be young trees and therefore much smaller until they establish and grow.

In addition, I am pleased to report the Parish Council agreed to spend £6,000 in support of the Trees for Streets scheme which will see 20 new trees planted around the village. The locations will be finalised in the next month or so if you have any great suggestions on where you think one would add value to the local street scene please let me or David Brough, our Clerk, know on (clerk@biddenham.org.uk).



The Parish has also received a complaint regarding the start time of the new development at Gold Lane with reports that work with heavy machinery was starting at 7:30am. Through our Clerk we had been informed by the Borough Planners that work shouldn't start until 8.00am so if work starts early and it is causing a nuisance please report it via Borough Council website and this should initiate an investigation. The link is <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/contact-planning/planning-enforcement/>.

The meeting also discussed the outcome of the archaeological investigations that had taken place at the site. The investigations had turned up some evidence of early settlement, not important enough to have the finding preserved and marked on the site but we were advised that the finds, samples and digital records will form part of the archive that will be deposited with the museum. At a later date the Parish Council will see if an information board or something similar can be provided or displayed in the village so residents can know about the site and what was found.

Finally, it was very pleasing to receive an upbeat report from our Pavilion Manager which highlighted that the use of this facility was returning to pre-Covid levels. It is a great facility and seeing it being regularly used is good news for the village. Recognising the need to continue to invest in the facility if this momentum is to be maintained the Parish Council agreed to purchase some new equipment and have some landscaping work undertaken to keep the area looking fresh and inviting. My thanks to our Clerk and the Pavilion Manager for their work on the new website which now provides a much better online front door to those who want to make a booking and see what the facility offers. Please check it out at <https://www.biddenhampavilion.co.uk/>.

Dare of the next meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 19th October at 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney and all are welcome.

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Finding the original plans for your house

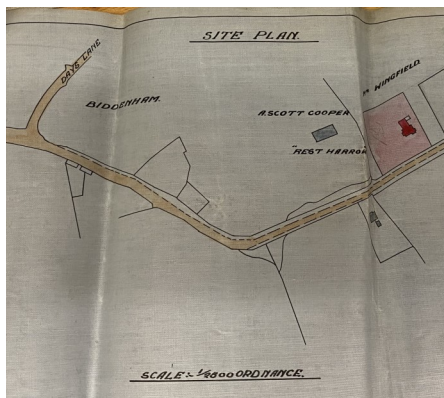
If your house was built between about 1860 and 1948 it is possible that Bedfordshire Archives may hold the original plans.

Plans may appear in either the collection of Bedford Borough (BorBP) or the rural district council (RDBP) due to boundary changes within the village. The RDBP collection starts slightly later, in the 1890s.

Some of these plans are works of art and give lovely representations of the architect's vision. As an example BorBP11920, shown below, was designed by Usher & Anthony for F J Westley in 1926.



It was described simply as 'a house at Biddenham'. The site or block plans included with the architect's drawings give clues as to where the house was situated.



At that time Biddenham Turn had not been named; it was known as New Road and the houses did not have numbers, just names, many of which have not survived. Of course, in 1926 Darlow Drive did not exist but this and other evidence, including directories for the late 1920s, points to this plot being on the corner of what is now Darlow Drive where Biddenham Turn becomes Main Road.

It has not been possible to identify the current addresses of all the plans held in the Archives and it is certainly not a complete collection but if you search the online catalogue at <https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk> using the expert search to enter the street name and 'plans' you can see what there is..

There is more to house history than just plans and there is a comprehensive guide to researching your house's

history including how to find out who owned the land, who built it, who lived there and what the buildings may have been used for on the Bedfordshire Archives website at <https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/PDFs/House-History-rev-2018-2.pdf>.

The Biddenham Community History page on the bedsarchives website also includes some accounts of significant properties in the village.

If you would like to visit the Archives to view plans and other documents you have found in the catalogue please email archive@bedford.gov.uk to make an appointment or leave a message on 01234 228833 and we will call you back.

You can take photographs of the documents or, if you wish, use the Archives professional copying service. Details are on the website.

What about modern houses?

Many of the houses now in the parish of St James's are new and their history is no mystery. But you may wish to find out when your particular house or street was built and you can do this via the BorBPC collection.

This collection comprises information and plans deposited by North Bedfordshire Borough Council and subsequently by Bedford Borough Council which allocate postal house numbers and postcodes to new developments and conversions. Postcodes are allocated, as phases are released for building (Not Yet Built, NYB) and so give an indication of the date of construction. The collection includes many significant developments including at Great Denham, St Andrew's and St Mary's.

For the period 1978-2010 information is on paper, but after that is in electronic form, so can be read directly from the catalogue.

Jean Gambold
Reader Support Officer
Bedfordshire Archives

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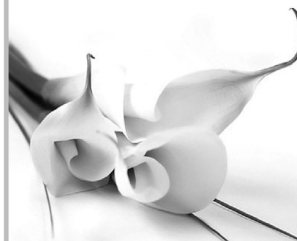
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This month in the garden

You will be familiar with the British Rail logo of parallel arrows pointing in different directions. When asked what the logo meant, I once heard someone say that it meant that BR didn't know whether it was coming or going. The logo also serves as a theme for this month's activity in the garden as it is a time for looking in two directions; dealing with the aftermath of the year that has gone and looking forward to the months to come through winter and on to spring.

Clearing up from the autumn leaf fall will be a major task this month and make sure that you use the dead leaves profitably. Sweep them off paths and rake them off lawns and put them in black plastic bags to make leaf mould for compost or a sowing medium after a couple of years storage. Stab the bags liberally to allow air in and put them away out of sight. When the leaf fall is not heavy it's a good idea to combine leaf clearance with mowing the lawn so that the mixture of leaves and grass can be used in the compost bin. Leaves in a pond are a problem as they enrich the water, encouraging the growth of algae and contribute to the build up of sludge at the bottom of the pond. That means netting the pond and keeping the net on until all leaves have fallen. Easy for a small pond but a large one will need canes or long pieces of wood to keep the net off the water. Remove leaves that weigh the net down on to the water.

You may want to keep dead perennial stems and seed heads for winter interest but floppy and untidy growth can be cut back. Roses and other shrubs may benefit from light pruning before the time comes for major pruning in spring. There will probably be some ground in a vegetable patch that is clear of growth and this can be cleared of weeds and

dug over or hoed and raked if you are following a no dig routine. Manure or compost can be dug into the soil or used as mulch on top of it. When you make your own compost it is best to have two bins. This means that, at this time of year, you can transfer the top material from one bin to the other one and keep going until you reach well-rotted compost lower down. This is the best time for cleaning the glass in a greenhouse or frame.

Preparing for winter involves giving protection to tender plants that will be killed or damaged by frost. Plants in containers should be moved into a greenhouse or conservatory. Plants in the ground, such as dahlias, perennial begonia or pelargoniums (non-hardy geraniums) will need to be stored in dry compost or soil in pots or boxes in a frost-free place. Dahlias can be left in the ground until their foliage has been blackened by frost. Then cut the stems back to a few inches above ground level, dig up the clump of tubers carefully and store upside down for a while to dry out before storing. Tie labels firmly on to named varieties. Alternatively, leave plants in the ground after cutting back and mulch heavily to a depth of several inches. Both methods may involve some loss of plants so I generally use both on a fifty/fifty basis. Tender plants that are too big to move inside should be well wrapped in horticultural fleece or other protective material.

Looking ahead to next spring there are plenty of things to be done. You may have home-grown spring bedding ready to plant out and it will also be available in garden centres and nurseries. Pansies or wallflowers are probably the most popular and readily available. If you have grown biennials or perennials from seed now is the time to plant them out in their permanent positions. Broad beans can be sown directly into the ground for an early crop next year and a popular variety is Aquadulce. You do need to use a variety bred for autumn sowing. You will get the longest flowering season from sweet peas if you sow them now in a greenhouse or cold frame. Heat is not needed. When seedlings have four or five leaves, nip out the tips to encourage the growth of side shoots. From now and on into the winter months plant new fruit trees, canes and bushes and ornamental trees and shrubs. Where bare-rooted plants are available they will establish well and be cheaper than container-grown plants. Wherever possible, collection will save delivery costs but advance ordering may be necessary, especially in the case of roses.

Jeremy Arthern



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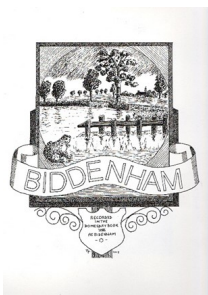
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4.30pm-7.30pm

No need to book just come and look around

Recorded talks will be available on our website www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk
Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available

The Biddenham Society

Time to pass the baton



I was elected chairman of the Biddenham Society in 2007 and, for personal reasons, I will be stepping down at the 2021 AGM in November after fourteen years – still seven fewer than my predecessor Doug Kitchen. Some would describe such longevity as a life sentence, but to me it has been an enormous privilege to chair this historical society, set up fifty-six years ago by residents determined to preserve important aspects of the beauty and character of our village.

Of course, things have changed considerably in the intervening period. In 1965 Biddenham was still a small compact settlement, with farms, post office and other buildings of practical daily importance to residents. The first AGM of the new society on 11th October 1965, chaired by Graham Bean, records some of the main issues of concern at that time: the speed of traffic along Bromham Road; weeds from uncultivated land blowing over gardens and upsetting residents; the village green (as we now know it) being unkempt and festooned with rubbish; and strong local opposition to Biddenham becoming part of the Borough of Bedford! Today, such matters would clearly fall within the remit of the parish council.

It was not until 1969 that the first big issue arose: the threat to create the third London airport at Thurleigh - placing Biddenham squarely under the flight path of jumbos. *The Biddenham Airport Resistance Fund* was formed under Cecil Winnington-Ingram, a tireless worker for the village for very many years. Thankfully, that battle was won, but it was not until 1973 that the Society's focus turned to more general planning matters, when a long-running offensive began to resist large scale housing development in and around Biddenham. Ever since, the scrutiny of local planning applications has been central to the society's existence, and thanks to the meticulous work of my predecessor our credibility as a respondent was officially recognised many years ago, by designation as a formal consultee of the local authority on planning matters.

If you are fairly new to the village, you could be forgiven for thinking that past efforts must have failed when set alongside the huge number of houses built or under construction in Deep Spinney, Great Denham, and the area north of Bromham Road plus the land scheduled for development west of Gold Lane. Whilst opposition to these schemes as a whole may have been unsuccessful (mainly because of government housing pressures), the contributions of the society - and other groups - to changing key features in order to make the proposals more acceptable to the community may have been forgotten with the passage of time, but they are there nevertheless. Now that few large open spaces remain undeveloped, our current main focus is to preserve the smaller green areas that are left, (especially in the older parts of Biddenham), and of course to maintain a critical oversight on proposals which could have a negative visual impact on the village.

During my fourteen years the society has received well over a thousand planning applications relating to the Biddenham parish. Many of these have been non-contentious and quickly despatched, and whilst as chairman I have dutifully read, or at least skimmed, all of them, only those which have raised questions in the context of our terms of reference have been e-mailed to the society's small enthusiastic committee for their individual views. For efficiency reasons we long ago abandoned face-to-face meetings. To ensure legitimacy, when raising an objection

our reasons for doing so are cross-referenced to specific policies in the current Bedford Borough Local Plan, and this might go some way to explain the high success rate we have traditionally enjoyed. As applicants are made aware of any objections submitted, this has occasionally resulted in my receiving an irate e-mail or, worse, being door-stepped by a red-faced resident. On one memorable occasion, following our tenacious opposition to the construction of a monstrous entertainment and accommodation building in a small back garden, the apoplectic applicant (who has since moved) reported me to the local authority for allegedly breaking planning laws on my own property, clearly as some kind of retribution for my sins! The allegations were ridiculous of course, totally unfounded, and quickly dismissed, serving only to waste the scarce time of a planning officer. I console myself with the thought that reactions like these are probably small beer compared to what our heroic local councillors sometimes have to face.

Looking back, I feel particularly pleased with some of the society's achievements. Especially gratifying, for example, was the widespread support received from local groups on our 50th anniversary in 2015 to underpin a successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to finance the creation of *The Biddenham Heritage Trail*. The Biddenham Art Group created over fifty original



*Alistair Burt
MP opening The
Biddenham
Heritage Trail*

illustrations for consideration for the several information boards, and mounted a public exhibition for residents to vote for their preferred pictures. The boards, scattered around the village, all incorporate a different selection of these works, making the trail particularly unique amongst its contemporaries. Pupils from St James' Primary School did their own illustrations for a junior version of the trail displayed on their own board in the school grounds. It always gives me much pleasure to see walkers studying the various routes, and even more so to hear the chatter of little voices, and the patter of tiny feet, on the Coffin Path at the bottom of my garden. Optimistically, one hopes that a greater appreciation of the village's heritage will nurture a wish amongst the young to continue to look after Biddenham in the future.

The Biddenham Society exists only as long as residents wish it to do so, and I invite you to show your support by attending the next AGM and Lunch on Sunday 7th November 2021. Further details can be found on page 11. May I thank residents for their past support for the society, and express the hope that my successor Will Jenkin can confidently look forward to this continuing in the future.

Tony Wood
Chairman

tony.wood@redrobin.me.uk

Founded in 1965 by a group of concerned residents, The Biddenham Society remains committed to the continued preservation of the beauty, history, character and heritage of the village.

The tale of a Biddenham garden

As first recounted by HS Manning FRSA

All had been going well in HS Manning's garden in Biddenham until the person posted on him during the Second World War who had loved and looked after the garden was called elsewhere by 'Authority'. Mr Manning was moved in September 1944 to write to the local newspaper about what ensued, after 'Benjamin Bunny discovered my winter greens'.

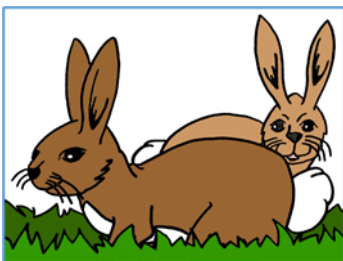
Mr Manning went boldly himself to an ironmonger's to purchase some wire netting. Wire netting, what for, asked the ironmonger, to which Mr M replied 'To protect my garden produce from the ravages of rabbits'. Having asked what was the area, and being told it was about one rod, pole or perch, the shopman advised Mr M, more in sorrow than in anger, to get a permit from the 'War AG'.

What is the War AG asked Mr M nervously and was informed it was the War Agricultural Executive Committee. Following the shopman's directions Mr M directed his steps to the High Street offices of the organisation.

'Here a sparkling young female inspired me with fresh heart, and I did my tale unfold'. Oh, she said, and told Mr M he must see the Pest Officer. 'My countenance fell. One man in his time plays many parts but to be classed as a pest. "No, no", she said encouragingly, "you are not the pest: what is consuming your cabbages maybe" '.

Smilingly, Mr M withdrew, began another exploratory traverse of the corridors and confronted a door marked Pest Officer. 'Here was the same delightful atmosphere of engaging efficiency. New confidence seized my troubled breast. I rehearsed again the tale of Benjamin Bunny and his family's predatory machinations. I aroused much personal sympathy, but alas, the official mind was adamant, and the wire netting permit was not forthcoming'. But with charming insouciance the lady said she would send an officer to see the garden.

Here were profound possibilities. 'An officer to see me! How kind, after all, was the soul under the official veneer. How the cubits were added to my stature! How gracious was the radiant benediction bestowed upon me as I withdrew.' Home Mr M went imagining the official would be awaiting him. But he came not that day, nor the day after, nor the week after, and the newly planted greens were disappearing fast 'and one night a battalion of bunnies, having heard of the rich provision, consumed the residue'.



Source: clipart-library.com

Endeavouring to short circuit the argument, Mr M enquired if he might have a bit of wire netting.

If the official could have had his way, Mr M could have had his wire netting 'but er-er, officially he was afraid not.' Then ensued some remarks about the weather and the war, and the official departed leaving Mr M wondering.

About that time a Borough Councillor of farming ancestry opined that rabbits could be scared by surrounding the plot with creosoted string. 'Here was a glimmer of

hope.' With rising confidence, Mr M tried the experiment. Cabbages were replanted and surrounded with the creosoted string. One day went by, two, three, a week, the plants were flourishing exceedingly.

Then one morning, one strand of string was severed, cleanly cut. The rabbits distaste for creosote had gone. 'Within a week, this Siegfried line had been overcome, and the third crop of greens - weary, exhausted, lacerated - presented a sad and melancholy sight.' Was this the end?



Source: clipart-library.com

'Oh! no'. Within six weeks of the first visit, another War AG official called to enquire about the health of the garden and whether the viciousness of the vermin had declined. Mr M accompanied him as he made sundry calls on near neighbours, and evinced a mild interest in a spinney close by. Then 'in the words of Bunyan, "I saw him no more."'

The garden went on to produce a crop but not the one intended. It was one repellent to rabbits, of leeks, celery and carrots which were flourishing and which the vermin passed by. The winter menu would not be so varied, but it would suffice.

'Wire netting is not needed, and is available for more urgent necessities. The engaging personnel of the War AG unconsciously disarm criticism, and make even the refusal of apparent horticultural necessities seem a virtue. The garden is still thriving. So are the rabbits.'

A tale of a garden in Biddenham revisited some 77 years on. Do today's gardeners in the village suffer with rabbits still, I wonder, or have Benjamin Bunny's descendants gone elsewhere for their winter greens?

Peter Applewhite

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Great Denham Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday 4th October at 7.30pm at Great Denham Community Hall.

For more details go to:
www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk/

Peter's Picturehouse

On Tuesday 5th October, we are showing the film *Nomadland* (certificate 12A), starring Frances McDormand. She portrays a resilient woman in her 60s, who moves to find work after the collapse of the local mine in Nevada, which resulted in her losing her home. She lives in her campervan with a few possessions. Many other characters in the film are played by real nomads from a community of travellers leading nomadic existences in 21st century America.

The film, released in the UK in January 2021, won Oscars for Best Picture, Director and Actress. We are really excited that we have been able to arrange to show it at Peter's Picturehouse. Please do come along and support Peter's Picturehouse as we get into autumn and the longer cooler evenings. A warm welcome awaits you in Biddenham Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month!

Doors open at 7.00pm for the showing to start at 7.30pm. Tickets are available on the door priced £5. If you have any questions or would like a lift to the Village Hall, do ring Marihelen on 07710 288933. As usual, hot and cold drinks and ice creams will be on sale before the film and during the interval.

We are looking forward to our next films too. In November we will be showing the classic film *Little Women* (U) and in December the film *Last Christmas* (12A). Do note the dates in your diary and come along!

Tuesday 2nd November 7 for 7.30pm *Little Women* (U)
 Tuesday 7th December 7 for 7.30pm *Last Christmas* (12A)

Rose Houghton

The Biddenham Society



56th Annual Lunch and AGM

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2021
12.30 pm in the Village Hall

Admission: Adults £10 - Children free

Places must be booked and paid for by 31 October

- Find out about recent planning applications, decisions and appeals in Biddenham including the Gold Lane development.
- Receive an up-to-date briefing on developments, the Borough's plans for Biddenham, and any imminent threats to the village.

*Covid precautions will apply -
 All surfaces will be cleaned before and after the event*

- This annual event is a friendly, informal and popular occasion which is always well supported by residents.
- Enjoy a free glass of wine or a soft drink on arrival followed by the Society's special Ploughman's Lunch.
- **ALL WELCOME** - especially our younger residents - but to help catering arrangements, please book early. Thank you.

Cheques payable to 'The Biddenham Society'.
 All bookings to Garry Fitzhugh, 69 Church End, Biddenham MK40 4AS
 (tel: 07778 004749).

PLEASE NOTE THAT TICKETS WILL NOT BE ISSUED.
 Receipt of your booking and cheque secures a place.

Celebrating and preserving Biddenham's beauty and heritage

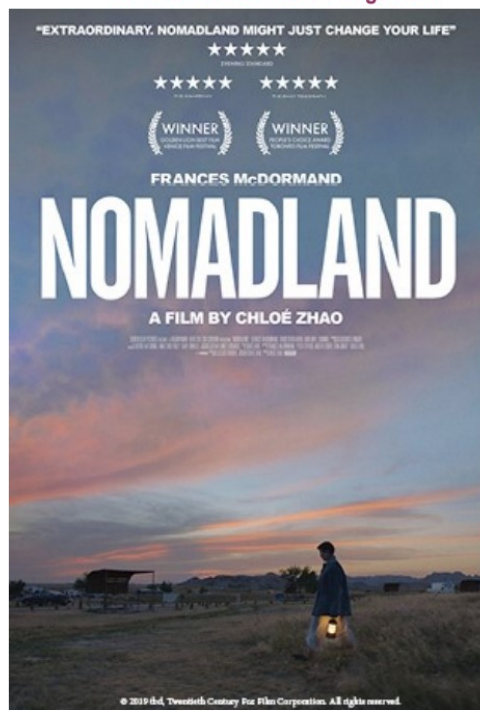


Peter's Picturehouse In October

Date: **Tuesday 5th October 2021**

Time: **Doors open 7:00pm, Film starts 7:30pm**

Location: **Biddenham Village Hall.**



Tickets available on the door, price: **£5**

Certificate: **12A**

For further information contact

Marihelen

marihelen@btinternet.com
 OR 07710288933

Coming soon...

Tuesday 2nd November: Little Women (U)

Tuesday 7th December: Last Christmas (12A)

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 or EMAIL





By the time that you read this article our second phase of clearing reeds from the pond will have been completed, considerably increasing the amount of clear water and improving the view. Prior to this taking place a small work party cleared the banks to allow better access from the water, so we express our thanks to them, The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) for their hard work in the water and the generous people from the village who provided us with the funds. Unfortunately, TCV did not clear as much as was hoped, because the reeds were deeply rooted and very hard to remove, so we are contemplating another session next year. The reeds have been placed on the bank to dry out and allow any creatures to make their way safely back to the water. We appreciate that the piles of reeds are unsightly, but they will be moved to the Triangle as soon as we are able.



*Before.
Photo Jane Knight*



*After.
Photo Paul Godden*

We would also like to thank all those who volunteered to mow the grass and empty the bin this season. It certainly hasn't been an easy activity this year and not helped by problems with the mower. Over the winter, we will be considering our options with the mower and whether we need to purchase a new one. The current one is over 10 years old and has given us good service.

The leaflets that we place in the plastic boxes on the gate to the pond have proved popular and elicited some financial support for the Friends. However, it is very disappointing to report that one of the boxes has been taken and the lid of the remaining box damaged!

On a similar note, we are aware that the new metal gate is not opening properly, and so it was tied back to allow better access, but the string to do this has also been taken! We hope to solve the problem of the gate soon, but I am not sure what we can do about this low level vandalism.

The recent pond dip was held on an unexpectedly sunny afternoon in early September and Chris was joined by several visitors, one of whom had walked from Kempston having seen the event on our website. A family from St Mary's especially enjoyed the collection of aquatic "wrigglies" in the trays. Chris was pleased with what was caught and this year lesser water boatmen were at number one with dragonfly larvae coming in at two. It was good fun as usual, and we hope to see you next year.

Our first work morning since the pandemic hit will take place on Saturday 6th November starting at 10.00am and finishing about noon, although if the weather is good, we hope to stay on longer because there is a lot to do. In the past the Committee would have provided tea/coffee and biscuits, but for Covid reasons we are not able to do this, so please bring your own refreshments. Please wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves and some tools such as secateurs and loppers. Everyone is welcome, although child volunteers must be aged 14 and over, and supervised by a responsible adult who is a family member.

The pond can be found behind the Manor Hospital and the footpath that will take you to it is at the junction of Main Road and Gold Lane, where there is a signpost with a kingfisher. Alternatively, it can be reached from the footpath behind St James's Church along the ancient coffin path that takes you across the fields and back to the village.

We hope you enjoy your autumnal walks by the pond.

The Pond Team

Contact Details

Chris Jones	chrishj49@gmail.com
Paul Godden	pgodden@btinternet.com
Jane Knight	jane@80kltd.co.uk
Cathy Eckett-Brown	ceckett@gmail.com
Sophie Applewhite-Rees	dansop1@googlemail.com

www.biddenhamvillagepond.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/biddenhamvillagepond



Planned road closures at Deep Spinney/Gold Lane junction

Anglian Water will be working on a new water supply on Sundays 31st October and 7th November. Access to Gold Lane will be closed for 24 hours on each date but access will be maintained for emergency vehicles.

The diversion will be via Bromham Road and Biddenham Turn.

Biddenham Gardeners Association

Designing a border from scratch, part 2

We were very pleased to welcome again Lucy Hartley, who gave us an excellent presentation on this extensive topic and I suspect we can all take on board some of her recommendations, whether now in the Autumn or at other times of the year. Lucy is an award winning Garden Designer based in Stratford upon Avon.

The main theme of her talk was the establishment of sustainable low maintenance borders, including reducing weeding and watering, as well as ensuring that you have the right plant for the right place. For example a mixture of annuals and perennials make for a high maintenance border. She showed a photograph of bedding in a supermarket, which had low and slow growing shrubs interspersed with cornus for variety, though these shrubs do need pruning at the right time in order to maintain their colour.

She advised that most climbers are best avoided for a low maintenance regime. Climbers such as clematis need frequent tying in and pruning. The self-clinging varieties are best in terms of minimal maintenance, such as hydrangea petiolaris and parthenocissus (virginia creeper) as these are more likely to hold a wall up rather than invade the mortar and do not put down extensive roots in the soil. Lucy informed us that if against a house, they could be considered a good buffer against extremes of heat or cold. Also consider leaning plants such as the cotoneaster

horizontalis, with its brilliant autumn colour and bees love the flowers. Trees tend to be fairly low maintenance, requiring pruning every 10 years or so.

Lucy advised to avoid 'floppiness' eg planting chrysanthemums in an east facing bed, where they will follow the sun and look untidy by the end of the day. We were told that Piet Oudolf picks rugged plants that do not drop, but of course not all of us have the space. Dead heading plants is not low maintenance so bedding plants are best avoided. Sterile plants such as modern hybrid Rosa Ballerina will continue flowering for a prolonged period.

In designing a border, Lucy mentioned the current thinking is to dig out some of the weeds, leaving roots in and then covering the area with two layers of cardboard, wet this and then cover with top soil say in the Autumn to leave until the Spring for planting. She said you get what you pay for in terms of top soil. If you pay around £40 per bag of loose soil, this is likely to be light and sandy, for around £80 you will get a dark blend with more loam and top quality dark soil with lots of organic matter will cost upwards of £100.

Weed proof membranes were generally discounted - they look somewhat artificial and otherwise not attractive, as well as prevent plants from seeding, plants can outgrow their space, but they can reduce maintenance. Weed suppressant fabrics come in two varieties - woven for gravel areas and non-woven for borders, but in either case they are eventually not weed free and can fray at the edges. Bark is suitable around deep rooted shrubs and looks good on a woodland floor. It decays slowly. 'Mind your own business' can be an effective ground cover but invasive if near paving. Beware of the prevailing wind.

In terms of design, whatever planting you choose needs to be 'congruent' as Lucy explained - it needs to fit with its surroundings. So in a rock garden, you would expect gravel scree, not bark chippings. One project she worked on was the front garden of a modern white painted house with grey window frames and a red door. This reminded her of a Japanese tea house and planting to complement this theme included shaped green shrubs echoing strong design and control features.

When planting do ensure that the hole is watered first before putting in the plant. Feeding is important and bone meal was recommended for the Autumn with fish blood and bones for the Spring.

I have only skimmed over a thorough and immensely interesting talk and if you wish to know more, Lucy will be visiting again (on Zoom) early next year. I forgot to mention that my own wisteria is becoming a bit of a thug and I am wondering what to do about it, but I will leave that for Lucy's return visit.

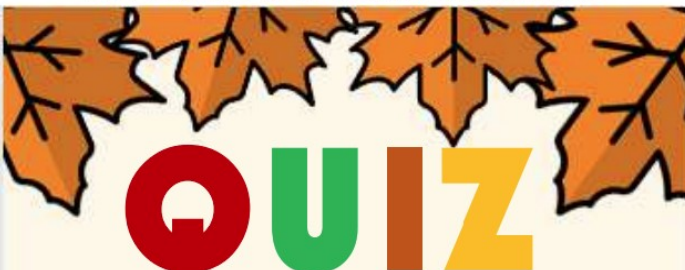
Our next speaker on 19th October is Dr Twigs Way when she will be talking about 'Artists and their Gardens'. Please do join us then on Zoom.

Josie Duchenne

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

www.biddenhamgardenersassociation.org.uk

The Friends of St James, Biddenham



Quiz

Saturday 16th October 2021. 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.


Zoom Quiz

Suitable for all the family

Help raise some funds for the upkeep of our local church in a fun way - please join us!

Free entry - but donations welcome to The Friends of St James at GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/de1ce53d>

To register and for participation details, email John Barkas at: stjamesquiz@mail.com (alternatively phone Peter Leverkus on 01234 353662)



The FOSJ is a registered charity raising funds for the fabric of St James' Church and barn



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Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 5pm, Fri 9am - 6pm and Sat 9am - 4pm

First Friday Lunch



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

New layout - tables of 6

Draw for 2 free lunch tickets every month
Book swap

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

All welcome—everyone, all ages!
1st October, 5th November

Quilting & Sewing Group



Biddenham Village Hall
10.30 a.m.

Last Friday of each month
Pop in and see what goes on



Hall Booking Details

Biddenham Village Hall

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

Church Barn

Contact Booking Officers:

Jane Knight 07831 172320

Rebecca Balmbro 07769 944727

Email: stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com

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.

You can check availability and book on the website www.biddenhampavilion.co.uk. Contact details for regular events are also there.

Great Denham Community Hall

www.greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk

Welcome Packs for

New Biddenham Residents

Contact Richard Church Tel: 214805

100 CLUB August draw



The winners were:

Angela Tatum-Hume -
Fatima Ayyub -
Peter Marks

1st Prize
2nd Prize
3rd Prize

Drawn by Lynne Vaughn

CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT NETWORK

Need local help? Ring 01234 815393 or email help@biddenham.org.uk.



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

Membership
Treasurer

Peter Leverkus
Paul Fricker

Tel: 353662
Tel: 342843

Regular Events in Biddenham halls
For contact details see the Hall websites

www.biddenhamvillagehall.org.uk

www.biddenhampavilion.co.uk

www.stjamesbiddenham.com

Monday		
Cha Char Chimps	10.00am	Village Hall
Yoga	10.00am-11.30am	Pavilion
Gentle Yoga	2.00pm-3.00pm	Pavilion
Storm Martial Arts	7.00pm-8.00pm	Pavilion
Guides	7.15pm Termtime	Village Hall
Tuesday		
Over 50s fitness	10.00am-12noon	Pavilion
Café B	10.30am-12noon (3 rd in month)	Village Hall
Mums & Movers Yoga	10.45am	Village Hall
Mum & Baby Yoga	12.15pm	
Peter's Picturehouse	7.00 for 7.30pm (1 st in month)	Village Hall
HIT Fitness	7.00pm-7.30pm	Pavilion
Country Dancing	8.00pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Village Hall
Zumba	8.00pm-9.00pm	Pavilion
Wednesday		
Ballet	9.30am-11.30am	Pavilion
Baby College	10.00am, 11.00am & noon Termtime	Village Hall
Handbell Ringer practice	2.00pm	Church Barn
U3a Table Tennis	2.00pm-4.00pm	Pavilion
Thursday		
Under 5's	9.30am-11.30am Termtime	Village Hall
Line dancing	9.30am-11.30am	Pavilion
U3A Handbell Ringer Practice	2.00pm	Church Barn
Dance classes	4.00pm-7.00pm	Pavilion
Whist	7.30pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Village Hall
Friday		
Pilates	8.30am & 9.30am	Village Hall
Jo Jingles	9.30am-12.30pm	Pavilion
First Friday Lunch	12.30pm (1 st of the month)	Village Hall
Quilting & sewing	10.30am-2.30pm (last of the month)	Village Hall
Brushstrokes Art Group	2.15pm-4.25pm	Pavilion
No Fear Bridge (intermediates)	2.30pm	Village Hall
Choir practice	7.00pm	Church Barn
Storm Martial Arts	7.00pm-8.00pm	Pavilion
Saturday		
Pregnancy Yoga	9.15am	Village Hall
Sunday		
Tai-Kwon Do	12noon-4.00pm Occasional	Pavilion
No Fear Bridge	6.00pm-9.00pm	Village Hall

For details of events at Great Denham Community Hall please visit
www.greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk

October

Fri 1 Oct	Coffee morning, Church Barn, 10.30am-12noon
Fri 1 Oct	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p14
Sun 3 Oct	8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at All Saints 9.30am All Age Service (followed by said Holy Communion) at St James's 9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Mon 4 Oct	Open Evening, Biddenham International School & Sports College, 4.30pm-7.30pm, see p8
Mon 4 Oct	Great Denham Parish Council, Community Hall, 7.30pm, see p10
Tue 5 Oct	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Wed 9 Oct	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Sun 10 Oct	9.30am Lay led service at St James's 10.00am Holy Communion Service at All Saints 6.30pm Service of Evening Prayer at St James's 9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Mon 11 Oct	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Wed 13 Oct	Reminiscence coffee morning, The Higgins, 11.00am, see p3 (Village Agent)
Thu 14 Oct	The Friends of St James Quiz, Zoom, 7.30pm - 9.00pm, see p13
Sat 16 Oct	8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at All Saints 9.30am Holy Communion service at St James's led by the Bishop of Bedford, the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson 9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Mon 18 Oct	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, see p3
Tue 19 Oct	Biddenham Parish Council, Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p6
Tue 19 Oct	Biddenham Gardeners Association meeting, Zoom, 7.30pm, see p13
Wed 20 Oct	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Sun 24 Oct	9.30am Lay led service at St James's 10.00am Holy Communion Service at All Saints 9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Mon 25 Oct	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Wed 27 Oct	Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am-2.30pm, see p14
Fri 29 Oct	9.30am Service of Wholeness and Healing at St James's 4.00pm All Souls Service at All Saints 6.00pm All Souls Service at St James's, see p2
Sun 31 Oct	

November

Tue 2 Nov	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Fri 5 Nov	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p14
Sat 6 Nov	Pond work morning, 10.00am-noon, see p12
Sun 7 Nov	Biddenham Society Annual Lunch and AGM, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p11
Tue 16 Nov	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, see p3
Thu 14 Oct	Reminiscence coffee morning, The Higgins, 11.00am, see p3 (Village Agent)
Fri 26 Nov	Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am-2.30pm, see p14
Sat 27 Nov	Village Quiz, Biddenham Village Hall, see p1

For regular events at the Church Barn, Pavilion and Biddenham Village Hall see page 15

To access Zoom church services enter meeting ID 998 074 6039.

The Loop

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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.