

The Loop

September
2021

£1.00



National Meadows Day

A few of us were in Cowslip Meadow throughout the day. We found lots of Pyramidal orchids, Meadow cranesbill, Tansy, Lady's bedstraw, Yellow rattle, Knapweed, and Ragwort - to name but a few.

The picture of the Meadow brown on Knapweed (below) was taken by Marysia for

National Meadows Day.

There have been very few butterflies around this year but as well as the Meadow browns there have been a few Marbled whites, Red admirals, Small coppers and Small tortoiseshells enjoying the flowers in the recent sunshine.

Val Fitzhugh



Pyramidal orchid in Cowslip Meadow



Great Denham Come Back Festival

On 11th September Great Denham Community Hall will host the "Big Comeback Festival 2021". The event will take place from 2.00pm to 8.00pm outside the Community Hall. Come along to enjoy food, stalls, games, rides and bar.

Services at St James's

Now that the country is re-opening more fully we will be increasing the number of services so that, in time, there is a service held every week at St James's Church.

We have, however, decided not to go back to the old service structure/timings, but to try something different (with a proposed three month trial period).

From 1st September services will be held each month as follows:

1st Sunday

8.00am Service at All Saints

9.30am All Age Service (followed by said Holy Communion) at St James's

2nd Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion Service at All Saints

6.30pm Service of Evening Prayer at St James's

3rd Sunday

8.00am Service at All Saints

9.30am Holy Communion Service at St James's

4th Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion Service at All Saints

5th Sunday (when there is one)

9.30am Service at St James's

It is hoped that from 1st October we can also hold lay led services at St James's at 9.30am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, this will be confirmed in due course.

Everyone is welcome at all our services and we hope you will join us as we explore a mixture of both traditional and new ways of worship.

Please note, the Sunday Zoom services will **not** continue beyond the end of August. However the Monday 9.00am Morning Prayers and Wednesday 6.00pm Zoom Service will do.

'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 All

I wonder if you have ever encountered the big 'G'?

In one of my last parishes, Colsterworth, the parish where Isaac Newton grew up and penned his famous 'Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica,' (yes, I did have to Google it to get the correct spelling!) I was involved in a project to attempt to put art installations in our ancient parish churches. We opted for an installation of 'Ophelia's Ghost,' a holographic projection of Millai's Ophelia, by Bristol artists Kristine and Davy McGuire. It filled our Church, as art always does, and what's more, it drew people's eyes to the wonderful sacred art that had stood in the centre of that community for nearly a thousand years. A friend of mine said to me recently that when she hit forty years old, as a woman, she became invisible. She is actually very beautiful, so perhaps she needed to take a closer look at herself. It is possible that the same can be said about our ancient churches.

One of the art installations I did see in another church was a series of surrealist projections, perhaps in the style of the early 20th century photo surrealist, Man Ray. Part of the installation was a rather unsettling projection of an eye over the chancel arch, staring back at the congregation. I don't know, perhaps this is the kind of thing we want to be reminded of in the church, 'God is watching you, he can see everything you do, so be careful'.

In the absence of a study in our current vicarage in Great Denham, (don't get me wrong, I love it here!), a friend of ours said that having my cassock hanging up on the door of the downstairs toilet had a similarly unsettling impact on her. The idea of God watching everything you do, and knowing everything about you, is perhaps not entirely a positive thing. The kind of omnipotent, omniscient view of



the sacred creates an image of God rather like the eye of big brother in Orwell's 1984, which in relation to our understanding of history, Auschwitz, Rwanda, Bosnia, and currently Afghanistan, makes it hard to slot the word 'omni-benevolent' into the triad. A later discussion perhaps!

It could be argued that the church has always used the concept of an omniscient God to keep us all bang in order. Certainly, the politics of the Middle Ages, which was unable to exert its power through the monitoring of social media or the ubiquitously developed surveillance culture which we are so painfully familiar with today, allowed the crown to declare, 'We can't watch you, but we know somebody who can'. So the language of our 1662 prayer book is heavily weighted with the language of divine surveillance and political control, all there to pull us into line and make sure we observe what the church and state tell us to do. Over recent years we have seen more and more the church being the subject, rather than the object, of the big eye and increasingly under scrutiny because of its abuse of power.

What if, instead, we, the people who proclaim the faith of Christ, abandoned the language of omnipotence altogether? What if our God was stripped of his robes, beaten, wounded, pierced, and a bloody crown of thorns placed upon his head? Then, what if the great, blinking eye was filled with tears of compassion at the sight of our fear and bewilderment.

I write this while sitting on a riverbank, close to the village of Flatford. It was here that Constable produced some of his most famous paintings, and I have come here filled with Guilt; Guilt over my inability to help my mum who suffers with Alzheimer's, Guilt over the internal struggles I face over things too private to broadcast, Guilt over an unfolding crisis with two of our daughters, because I am unable to help, and Guilt over the fact that I am here at all, and not walking round my parishes, or even out walking Nutmeg, our rather needy Labrador. The all-seeing eye of the flawed institution and its minions has done its best to keep the great eye projected on my soul.

Have you encountered the big 'G'?

I am not talking about God of course. I am talking about Guilt. This is the Satan of the Church that binds us to the past, to the shadows within ourselves and prevents us moving forward to the future that the true and loving Father of our Lord Jesus Christ wants us to experience.

God bless.

Eric



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

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Secretary	Jacqui Piper	Tel 356993
Treasurer	Michael Hurford	Tel 271746
Organist/Choirmaster	Graham Weeks	Tel 07552 052840
	www.stjamesbiddenham.com	



Constable's 'Flatford Mill', now in Tate Gallery



We're still Hashing

You may recall from an article in 'The Loop' a couple of years ago that there is a little known sport called 'hashing', followed by groups known as the Hash House Harriers, loosely based on the theme of hare and hounds.

It's a relatively small group of people of differing size, age and gender that gather at a different pub in the area every week, and run (or walk) an original circuit set by the 'hare' of about 4-5 miles, and then finish the evening off with a couple of drinks in the pub. The trail is marked by means of dots of sawdust or flour on the pavement or footpath. There are breaks in the trail at some junctions marked by a circle, so while the front runners are looking for where it continues, the back runners can catch up. There are various other devices employed to keep the group together. You may have noticed that there were some marks around in July.

The sport started in Malaysia just before the war, and there are groups all over the world, and particularly in Britain – try googling 'hash house harriers' and see the list! The local one to Bedford is the Hare & Hounds H3 (<http://www.h5hashers.org.uk/index.shtml>).

A number of 'Hashers' (as they are known) from Somerset will be staying in the area over the weekend of 11th September, and several trails will be marked for them to follow over the weekend. As a consequence, there will be quite a lot of marks around in Biddenham, Bromham and Great Denham and the surrounding area, and I would like to reassure residents that they are part of an innocent sport and not to get alarmed by them.

If you want to contact me for any reason, please call me on my mobile 07889027396.

Geoff Lill

Letter to the Editor

Thank you for publishing the family eulogies given at Peter Culverwell's funeral; I very much enjoyed reading them all.

As a postscript, may I add that in the churchyard afterwards I met Charles Winnington-Ingram. He told me he had specially come to represent his late parents, Cecil and Maudie, who were friends of Peter and Glenys.

Charles told me that Peter usually telephoned him with good wishes at Christmas time, and always asked about "good works", which he expected Charles to report on to him: yet another facet of Peter's interesting personality.

Mary McKeown



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. There are plenty of different 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

The Friends of St James, Biddenham



Q U I Z

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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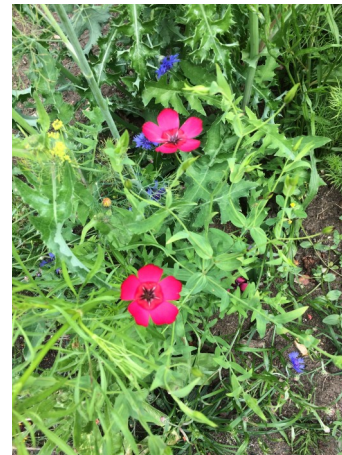
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Moxons' blooming wildflower garden

Fran and Richard Moxon have planted a wildflower garden in front of their house which has produced a very colourful and abundant display.



Common buckwheat



Scarlet flax and cornflowers



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Mallow

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 Cricket Club



With two months having passed since the last update in the July Loop there has, as always, been a great deal of activity on the cricket field.

Starting with the senior team five games have been won out of the last six played with the result that Biddenham are now placed fourth out of nine teams in the Bedfordshire County League Division One (the Premier Division is above us). Notable wins have been achieved against Biggleswade, Great Brickhill (twice) and Luton (twice). The side has been more settled in recent weeks and has included some promising younger players, Elliot Byrne, Ethan Galbraith and Charlie Searle on a regular basis. They have made regular contributions to the team's success. Finding eleven players remains a challenge each week with availability remaining patchy.

Only two fixtures remain in August but we hope to report a strong end to the season.

The junior section of the club has again seen a great deal of activity. All the league matches have been completed but there are still some friendly matches to be played including those by the Sunday Development Team containing a mixture of juniors and a few adult players, mostly parents. Once again Chris Spurgeon has lead the youth section with great effectiveness and good humour, and has received great support from age group managers Julian Krishna, Jagtar Singh, Zohra Zaman, Nick and Katy Ulvert over the key weeks of the season between April and July. There have also been many who have helped with umpiring and scoring, plus at training sessions without whom the club would not function.

Off the field the club has successfully passed the Safe Hands Management process as laid down by the England and Wales Cricket Board that enables Biddenham to retain its status as a Clubmark club.

Weather permitting, the junior season should reach a busy finale on Sunday 29th August when a junior six a side day is planned in aid of Young Leaders in Cricket. This day is being masterminded by Amelia Crowe who has captained our under 15 team this season.

None of these events at Biddenham would 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.

There is a special mention for David Watson because he is soon to retire from his responsibilities at the cricket ground after 20 years of dedicated and skilful work. The condition of the ground and pitches has improved year by year to the point that Biddenham enjoys probably one of the best pitches in the county. After many years as club chairman David has devoted himself to this, sometimes thankless, task and at the same time has improved the club's facilities notably by achieving significant funding from Sport England just a few years ago. Back in 2003 David and Sian Rosser put in the "groundwork" to ensure that Biddenham was one of the first clubs in Bedfordshire to achieve the important Clubmark accreditation. All in all his contribution has been significant to the club as well as in making the pavilion field such an agreeable and safe amenity for the village. Our gratitude is due for all the hours generously given.

Richard Fone

Club news, fixtures and results appear on the website at:
<http://biddenham.play-cricket.com/home>

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
Junior Chairman	Chris Spurgeon	07707 771606
Cricket Secretary	Richard Fone	07818 678697
Club Welfare Officer	Joe Derilo	07468 431304
100 Club	James Gardner	07928 478563

100 CLUB July draw

The winners were:

Denise Burgess -	1st Prize - £50
Iubna Munawar -	2nd Prize - £25
Suman Carlton-Smith	3rd Prize - £12.50

Drawn by Sheila Frossell



Home fixture on Sunday 22nd August, demonstrating the impeccable ground conditions.

Biddenham Parish Council

The most recent Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 20th July 2021 at the Pavilion. We were back in our usual meeting room which was good – getting back to normality – and bad – there was no air conditioning and it was very warm!

Present at the meeting were Parish Councillors Graham Bates, Stewart Briggs, Peter Chase, Harry Fowler, Alan Jacobs and Francia Slade. Apologies were received from Chris Gee and Krys Osuch. The Clerk, David Brough, and our two Borough Councillors, Jon Gambold and Roger Rigby, were also present.

I reported to the Parish Councillors that Joe Warren, one of our Councillors, had resigned from the Council. As a Parish we are sorry to see him leave as he has provided great support and contributed effectively while on the Council so that it can service and support its residents. We wish him all the best for the future.

Joe's resignation has prompted the Council to reach out and see if there are any residents who would like to become involved as a co-opted Member. It is a rewarding and not too demanding role so I'd encourage you to look out on the notice boards for details of how to register your interest.

Parish Council Meeting

We didn't have any members of the public attend the meeting but I suspect this was a combination of nothing overtly controversial on the agenda and the weather.

In my last report I had stated there would be a meeting with a representative from Borough Highways to look at a proposal for some traffic safety features on Gold Lane. While I am pleased to report the meeting took place, the upshot was that achieving an acceptable solution would require widening the road and removing some of the pavement. This would make the scheme a lot more expensive and therefore unlikely to progress as a priority for the Borough. As a Parish we agreed to (to use a favourite Government phrase) 'pause' this idea – as who knows what might happen in the future should funding or highway issues change.

While some of the decisions we take as a Parish



Council are routine and, dare I say it, mundane, I am pleased that the Council approved a one-off grant of £1,500 to fund a defibrillator for the Kings Field Sports Facility. The unit will be maintained going forward by the Bedford Town FC Youth Liaison and Facilities Management Group. We also agreed to renew the housing for the defibrillator at the Pavilion as the current one makes accessing the unit difficult – not something you want when you need to use it. Speaking of Pavilion things, I was pleased that Councillors also supported investing in a refresh of the Pavilion website to make it easier to use and book activities. I hope by the next Parish Council meeting in September (yes, we have a month off in August for r&r) it will be up and running.

As part of the update we receive from our Borough Councillors, we were signposted to a consultation called "The Draft Plan: Strategy options and draft policies consultation". This is to inform the new Local Plan 2040 and runs from Tuesday 29th June to 5.00pm on Friday 3rd September 2021 with various drop-in sessions. Full details can be accessed here <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy-its-purpose/local-plan-review/>

There aren't many spare pieces of land in the Parish but you might want to look at the following link <https://bluefoxtech.co.uk/demos/bedford-published-sites/#/center/-0.4399,52.1458> to see what representations are being put forward by land owners about what the local plan ought to contain.

Date of the next meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 21st September at 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney and all are welcome.

Stewart Briggs
Chair



St James's Church Barn

We are pleased to announce that St James's Church Barn will be open for external hires from 1st September 2021.

If you would like further information, or to book the Church Barn, please contact one of our Bookings Officers:

Jane Knight 07831 172320

Rebecca Balmbro 07769 944727

Email: stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com

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Biddenham Village Hall

Biddenham Village Hall has now reopened and will operate in accordance with the current government guidelines. Some regular events have already restarted (see page 15) and others will be restarting in the coming months.

For up to date details please take a look at our website www.biddenhamvillagehall.org.uk To ensure the safety of all users, casual bookings are currently restricted to village residents. We will review this policy regularly taking into account the Covid situation and government advice. For all the latest information please refer to the website.

Thank you to everyone for their patience and continued support. We look forward to resuming a full programme of events as soon as practicable.

Biddenham Village Hall Management Committee.

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
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New layout - tables of 6

Draw for 2 free lunch tickets every month
Book swap

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Or text/leave a message on **07412 559584**

All welcome—everyone, all ages!
3rd September, 1st October



First Friday is back!

Café B...



Tuesday 21st 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 19th October

No Fear Duplicate Bridge in the Village Hall



Fridays at 2.30 p.m. (intermediates)

Sundays at 6 p.m.

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Emmaus Village

In search of Bistro volunteers

Bedfordshire homelessness charity Emmaus Village Carlton is appealing to local people to help out in their bistro.

em's Bistro, at the charity's site on School Lane near Carlton, serves proper coffee, breakfasts, hot and cold lunches, sandwiches and paninis as well as delicious cakes. It raises vital funds to help provide a home and meaningful work for 42 people who have experienced homelessness.

The popular bistro has continued to trade during the lockdown periods by offering takeaways. With the indoor seating area now reopened customers can dine inside or make use of the outdoor marquee and picnic benches across their large site.

Emmaus Village Carlton is calling on local people to volunteer and help in the bistro. Working alongside staff and those supported by the charity, volunteers support the enterprise by serving customers, clearing tables and assisting with simple kitchen tasks.

Speaking about the volunteer search, Catering Manager Chloe Goodship said: "Emmaus Village Carlton supports some of the most vulnerable people and we're extremely proud that our popular bistro helps raise money for the charity. We do our best to provide great food and customer service; the more people we have helping, the better our bistro will be. This is why we're hoping that more local people will join our volunteer team. We provide all relevant training along with a full induction, paid travel expenses and lunch on the day you volunteer."

Anyone interested in volunteering can get in touch with the charity by calling 01234 720826 or emailing barbarafitzgerald@emmausvc.org

Anna Eddleston

To find out more: www.emmaus.org.uk/village-carlton

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Emmaus Village Carlton is a registered charity - number 1083113



Volunteer Sarah at em's Bistro, Emmaus Village Carlton

Andrew Charles

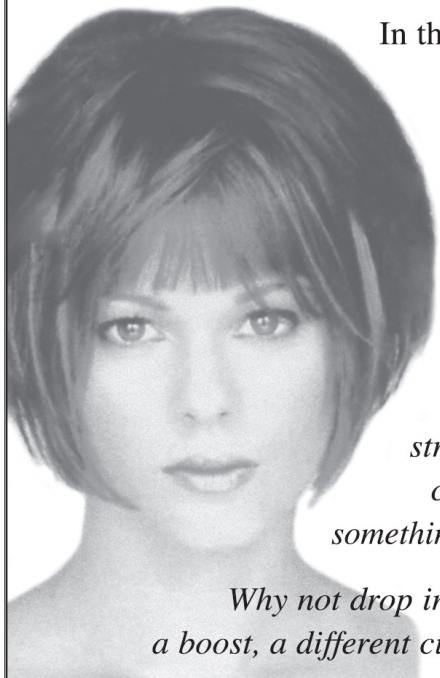
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Biddenham History Society

This year, we have enjoyed an exciting summer of sport, even though the organisers have had to take account of the continued global presence of the Covid-19 virus. Despite difficulties with training and travelling, there have been outstanding performances from athletes.

There is a strong sporting tradition in Biddenham and at the Olympic Games in London in 1948, we had our very own Olympic judge in field sports. This was P.J. (Peter) King who was a Church Warden and whose initials are on the stone plaque on the west wall of the new vestry, dated 1974. He coached athletics and taught Physics at Bedford Modern School.

Other sports have flourished in the village over the years, notably football, cricket, tennis and golf. The Bromham and Biddenham football team was active in the early twentieth century.



Bromham & Biddenham Football Team

The Biddenham Cricket Club was also important at this time and the vicar, Revd. W.E.B. Norman played regularly.

The cricketers have vastly improved facilities today. In his memories in the Biddenham Bulletin for February, 2004, Alan Evans recalled that Biddenham in the 1930s played other clubs from Bedford and the surrounding villages on a field that was 'far from flat, had many weeds and where the players had to watch out for cowpats.'

Tennis players either had to use their own gardens or the three courts that were built in Day's Lane in the 1920s. These courts were constructed by John Seager who had a house built on the side of one of the gravel pits in Day's Lane when he retired as head groundsman/caretaker at the golf club on Bromham Road. Two of the courts were at the bottom of the gravel pit and one was at the rear of his house.

Golfers had good facilities. The Bedfordshire Golf Club in Bromham Road, where John Seager had worked, was built in 1891. In 1991, the club celebrated its centenary and had 425 active members (320 men and 105 women). It produced individual County Champions many times from amongst its members.

Today, the Pavilion field provides well maintained facilities for several sports, but golfers have had to go further afield as the land on Bromham Road is likely to be built on for housing soon and the golf course at Great Denham has been closed.

It is to be hoped that all the sports clubs will now have a successful autumn and winter season with the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions and the residents of Biddenham will



Bedfordshire Golf Club House

be able to enjoy the sports facilities in and around the village.

Kathy Fricker

We are hoping to be able to restart meetings of the Biddenham History Society in the spring of 2022.

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Herbert, Fanny and Alan

You know one thing about Sir Herbert Trustram Eve: he was the new agent for the Biddenham Estate who recognised that the then distressed dovecote by our village pond was a special building and organised its restoration and the party in July 1932 for its opening.

One thing though you might not know about Sir Herbert is that he was Alan Turing's uncle, the Alan who will forever be associated with Bletchley Park and code breaking during the Second World War, and who is now widely considered to be the father of computer science and artificial intelligence. An original thinker, Alan was also a

talented long-distance runner and capable of world class marathon times, trying out for the 1948 British Olympic team but hampered by an injury.

Sir Herbert died in 1936 and never knew of Alan's immense achievements. But he saw something in him even as a

very young boy maintaining that Alan 'would do great things'. On his Christmas visits to the Trustram Eves Uncle Bertie would tease young Alan because of his 'giggly humour'.

Alan's grandfather, John Turing, took a degree in mathematics but then turned his back on mathematics to take holy orders. In 1861, he married Fanny Boyd and the couple had ten children of whom two died in infancy, leaving four daughters and four sons. In 1873 John became the vicar of St. Mary's, Edwinstowe in Nottinghamshire, but in 1880 he had a stroke from which he didn't fully recover and in 1884 he retired because of ill health.

The family moved to Bedford, like many middle-class families of the time, to take advantage of the Harpur Trust Schools, the two eldest sons attending the Grammar School. John died in 1885 and as his widow was an invalid, the care of the family fell to eldest daughter, Fanny Jean, who it is said ruled with a rod of iron. Fanny set up her own school and two of her sisters became school teachers, sacrificing themselves for the sake of their brothers' advancement. Mathematics skipped a generation in their brother Julius Turing, a graduate in literature and history, who entered the Indian Civil Service, and it was Julius who was Alan's father.

Fanny was the only daughter to marry, in 1893 marrying in St Paul's Church, Bedford, Herbert Trustram Eve, a Bedford estate agent and the leading rating surveyor of his day. After their marriage Fanny became active in politics and as a social reformer. During the Great War, she chaired the London and Middlesex Women's Land Army, and the Women's Agricultural Federation for a year from 1918. From 1917 until 1928, she chaired the Conservative Women's Reform Association, which campaigned for social reforms. She was a London County Councillor from 1919 to 1931. From 1921 until 1931, she served as treasurer of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and as its president in 1933, and also served on the Church of England Church Assembly from 1925 to 1930.



In 1904 Herbert was appointed Agricultural Correspondent to the Board of Agriculture. During the Great War he chaired the Forage Committee at the War Office, which oversaw the requisitioning of foodstuffs for the British Army. We've previously met him in Bedford in January 1916 at the Christmas treat for the Welsh troops billeted in the town. He told them he thought it the finest thing he ever did in his life when, in August 1914, he had proposed that the town appoint an Entertainments Committee to organise recreation and entertainment for the troops that would be coming to Bedford. Later in 1916, as Hon Secretary of the County War Agricultural Committee, Herbert was involved with the women on the land demonstrations of agricultural operations which took place in Biddenham, in and around Grove Farm.

Herbert was invested as a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1918. In 1920 he was elected President of the Farmers Club, an office previously held by both his father and his grandfather. He was an expert in the valuation of real property, was President of the Rating Surveyors Association, and was an expert witness in a number of high-profile compensation cases.

Whilst Uncle Bertie and Aunt Fanny, who had died in 1934, would never know of their nephew Alan's achievements, neither would they ever know of the sad events of and following his prosecution in 1952 and his death in 1954, just days before his 42nd birthday. But they would have been heartened that in 2009, following a public campaign, the then Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, made an official public apology on behalf of the British government for 'the appalling way he was treated', and in 2013 the Queen granted Alan a posthumous pardon.

Alan Turing is commemorated on many plaques around the country, the blue plaques including one at Alan's place of birth in Warrington Crescent, Maida Vale, ...



... one at Manchester University, which Alan joined in 1948 and where much of his ground-breaking work was undertaken, and one in Adlington Road, Wilmslow, where Alan lived and died.

And last but not least, Alan Turing is commemorated on the new £50 banknote issued this year on his birthday, 23rd June.

Peter Applewhite

Nick Sleep
Proprietor

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Mob: 07990 598154
Email: nicksleep@live.co.uk



Peter's Picturehouse

Well, what a good evening we had at our August showing of Knives Out in the Village Hall! It was with much excitement that we opened up the doors of Peter's Picturehouse again and it was so lovely to see our audience arrive, buy drinks and ice creams and enjoy the whodunnit that kept us guessing right until the end.

On Tuesday 7th September we are showing the film Jojo Rabbit (certificate 12A), which we had planned to show in July. About a lonely German boy with an imaginary friend, and faith (in Nazi Germany), it shows how easy it is for society to be manipulated into hating minorities, religions and/or groups of people especially when fake news and social media are present. But, by the end of the day, the boy shows us that compassion and love will help us to build a better world.

We would love to welcome you back to our films, shown on the first Tuesday of each month. If you haven't been before, it's a chance to meet up with a friendly bunch, see the film on a big screen and enjoy coffee, tea, wine, beer or soft drinks and ice creams. We have a short interval to stretch legs and chat with neighbours and, of course, it's not very far to get home at the end!

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, do ring Marihelen on 07710 288933.

If you cannot make Jojo Rabbit our next film is Nomadland, released this year, and it is being shown on Tuesday 5th October.

Rose Houghton

The Biddenham Society



56th Annual Lunch and AGM

**SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2021
12.30 pm In the Village Hall**

Admission: Adults £8 - Children free

Places must be booked and paid for by 31 October

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

*Covid precautions will apply (please wear a mask as you arrive)
- all surfaces will be cleaned before and after the event.*

Enjoy a free glass of wine or a soft drink on arrival followed by the Society's special Ploughman's Lunch. This annual event is a friendly, informal and popular occasion which is always well supported by residents.

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 September



Date: Tuesday 7th September

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

Location: Biddenham Village Hall.



Ticket price: £5

Certificate: 12A

For further information contact

Marihelen

marihelen@btinternet.com
OR 07710288933

Jojo Rabbit © 2020 Disney. All Rights Reserved

Coming soon...

Tuesday 5th October: Nomadland (12A)

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This month in the garden

Sadly there will be no Biddenham Show again this year when we can celebrate the productivity and beauty of our gardens by displaying our fruit, vegetables and flowers. All I can do is tell you some anglers' tales about the wonderful things I have grown this year and how they would have swept the board if there had been a competition. In practice, many things have been disappointing, small carrots, few French beans, slug-eaten lettuces and cabbages and poorly developed onions and leeks. It wasn't all bad, though. I have the longest runner beans I have ever grown (rain and the variety grown helps), there is a lot of sweet corn coming along nicely and I have a good display of dahlias from a collection I bought a couple of years ago.

Many people think of September as the start of the gardening year. After a lull in August there are a lot of things to think about; jobs to be done now and work or planning for next year.

Spring bulbs will, perhaps, be at the top of the list. If you have pre-ordered they may well have arrived by now or will be coming soon and there will be plenty of bulbs in the garden centres. Many bulbs are good for naturalising; planting in grass or in borders, while anyone with limited space can grow bulbs in containers. Daffodils and most other spring bulbs can be planted now while tulips and hyacinths are best left until November to reduce the risk of disease. If you want tulips for naturalising, check on their suitability as many varieties are at their best only in the first year and will need to be replaced every year. If you want to save money on bulbs you can often do so by waiting until late in the autumn when spare stock will be sold off cheaply. Flowering will be later than for things

planted earlier but it will still happen. Choice may, of course, be limited by then.

While things are still showing well with foliage or flowers this is a good time for thinking about changes or additions, particularly for shrubs which are best planted in the dormant season. Many plants, and especially roses and fruit bushes or canes, are best bought bare rooted over winter. Most things can be bought in containers at any time of year but they are cheaper when sold bare rooted. They will be available on-line even if you can't find them in a garden centre. David Austin is probably the best-known rose grower but Peter Beales is another big supplier. If you are planning a new area for grass, the second half of September is good time for sowing grass seed. Turfing a new area is best left until October. Any area of new grass, whether sown or turfed, needs to be kept well-watered until established and then mown only at a high setting.

Although this is a good time for thinking ahead there are plenty of jobs to be done now. It will still be a productive time with things ready for harvesting. Sweetcorn should be ready now although it is sometimes difficult to be sure when the cobs are ripe. The fronds at the tip of the cobs will go brown and you can check readiness by peeling back the outer skin of a cob and squeezing a kernel between thumb and finger. If milky juice comes out the cob will be ready. Sweetcorn goes starchy quite soon after ripening so, if you have unused cobs, it is best to freeze them. They freeze well and will retain their sweetness. The freezer books recommend blanching but we find that it is enough to peel the cob and then freeze it without any other preparation; when eaten fresh, sweet corn should be picked as near as possible to cooking time to get it at its sweetest. Tomatoes will go on ripening for some time, especially if under glass, but remember that home-made chutney is one of the joys of growing tomatoes and it is a good idea to pick some green for chutney rather than waiting to see if there will be any unripe fruit later on.

Early varieties of plums, apples and pears may have ripened in August but September is the main start of their season, extending to October for apples and pears. I have hopes of a good crop of Victoria plums from our tree this year but the Bramley apple crop is looking very thin. Was that a late frost at their blooming time? The Conference pear is also looking good. Apple and pear trees should be pruned during the dormant winter time but plums should be pruned as soon as possible after fruiting as winter pruning wounds can lead to the entry of disease.

Jeremy Arthern



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We are now about to embark on our second round of reed clearance in the pond thanks to our successful fundraising effort earlier this year. The Conservation Volunteers will once again be sending a team of six people and the work will take place on Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd September. The footpath will remain open from Gold Lane to the Church and the reeds pulled from the water will be laid on the bank to dry before they are moved to allow any creatures to make their way back to the water. There will be a considerable pile, so please bear with us while this very necessary work is undertaken. We know that the result will be worth it. Having already removed a third of the reeds in 2020, there has been significant re-growth this year, so we may need to consider a further session in 2022.

In our efforts to tell more people about the pond and the role of the Friends, we have installed a leaflet box at each access point. The good news is that the leaflets are being regularly taken, and we have had some positive financial response; so, our fingers are crossed that more people will want to help us preserve and enhance this valuable amenity.

At long last we can begin to welcome people to events at the pond and to start off Chris is hosting a pond dip on Sunday 5th September, meeting down at the pond at 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome, including children of all ages, but they **must** be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for their safety, and please do not bring dogs with you because they do disturb the wildlife. This is always a fun event so please come along to see what is lurking on and in our pond.

A future date for your diary is the autumn work morning, which is scheduled to take place on Saturday 6th November between 10.00am and noon. Please wear appropriate gloves and footwear and where possible please bring your own tools. This event is only suitable for children over the age of 14, but they still must be supervised by a responsible adult.

The pandemic is not yet over and even though our events are outdoors, please be sure to take whatever Covid precautions you feel are appropriate for you, and please maintain a respectful distance from other people.

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.

The Pond Team

Contact Details

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

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



Great Denham Parish Council

The next Parish Council Meeting is on 6th September at 7.30pm at Great Denham Community Hall.

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

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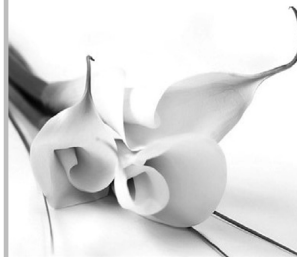
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Ultra fast broadband now in Day's Lane

The Day's Lane community now has FTTP (fibre-to-the-premises) Ultrafast Full Fibre Broadband availability; the most reliable, fastest broadband with a pure fibre optic cable straight into the home, thanks to the residents coming together to support a Community Fibre Partnership with Openreach.

For many years Day's Lane residents had suffered from slow speed and unreliable connection on their fibre-to-the-cabinet (FTTC) Broadband service. This caused problems for businesses trying to work online and households using the internet, streaming movies and so on. Despite the government's ambitions to roll out full fibre by 2025 there was not much sign that anything was going to happen in Day's Lane any time soon.

In 2018 a group of residents got together to look into the issue and found that around half the community were interested in better broadband. The government had recently set up the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS) to provide vouchers towards the installation cost to applicants who would agree to take up a gigabit-capable fibre service. It would be possible to cover the entire cost to the community if enough residents would commit to ordering full fibre.

All the residents in the community were approached to find out how many would agree to participate in a Community Fibre Partnership. We also held a public meeting in the Village Hall in June 2019 where a representative from Openreach told us more about fibre broadband and how we could benefit.

Despite some scepticism by a few about the government offering free money, enough residents to cover the initial estimate agreed to participate. But by this time the installation cost had increased. Undaunted, we went back to the community and, together with a generous donation from a local company towards the shortfall, we finally had enough residents committed to cover the cost of some £62,000 and enable us to proceed. And so, at the end of 2019, a Community Interest Company (CIC) was set up to benefit the community by 'facilitating the delivery of full-fibre gigabit broadband ... to enable our community to do more digitally.'

The CIC arranged with Openreach to bring fibre broadband to the community and work started in early 2020. After a few hiccups along the way, Openreach completed installation of the full fibre infrastructure in November 2020. The first resident had FTTP installed to their home in November and the final participant in the GBVS scheme was connected in July 2021.

All those who supported the Community Fibre Partnership are now enjoying the benefits of gigabit-capable broadband and a number of others have seen what they are missing and have also had FTTP installed to their homes.

With full-fibre broadband available to the entire Day's Lane community, the work of the Day's Lane Fibre CIC is complete and the company will be closed down.

We were left with a sum of money remaining from the contribution that was received at the outset. Under the rules of a CIC this must be used to benefit the community by transfer to an 'asset locked body' such as a local charity or otherwise made for the benefit of the community. To comply with the requirements, the directors have arranged donations to the Day's Lane Residents Association and The Friends of St James Biddenham.

With thanks to all who took part in the Day's Lane Fibre Partnership and together brought full fibre broadband to the residents and supported our village community.

David Smith

Biddenham Gardeners Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the BGA took place on 20th July 2021. We were joined on Zoom by 35 members. Ron Bessey is standing down from the committee after ten years of very committed service to the BGA. He was thanked by Paul Fricker and was presented (virtually) with a gift. It is due to Ron that we have such an outstanding website. Josie Duchenne was proposed as a new committee member by Ann Ebbs and was seconded by Linda Truscott.

Paul then thanked all the committee members for their hard work for the Association. Paul also thanked Brian Cheyne for auditing our accounts, Rosemary Harris for her assistance with the website and Peter Carter for devising our Christmas Quiz. Paul then went on to say how the garden had become a life-line for many people during the last year. Gardens and gardening have enriched people's lives and provided a source of fulfilment and contentment. We are fortunate that our Association has been able to continue to provide friendship through our monthly meetings. The speakers have been varied and knowledgeable and have been well received by members and visitors.

We were then treated to a really fascinating presentation on the work of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners by Kate Jones who was invited to be a member of this organisation 20 years ago. This Company was first mentioned in 1345 and is a survivor from the many medieval craft guilds. These guilds exercised control over the practice of their particular craft and ensured a proper training through an apprenticeship system. The Gardeners Guild received a royal charter in 1604 and thus enabled the gardeners to sell their produce in the city. Current members are both professionals and amateurs who are actively involved in the craft and all are united by a common bond of horticulture and gardens. The coat of arms bears the insignia "*In the sweat of thy brows shalt thou eate thy bread*".

The purpose of the Company is to support charitable activities connected with horticulture - for example Perennial, Gardening for the Disabled Trust, London in Bloom, Thrive - to name a few. The Company also promotes the horticultural trade and provides friendship for keen amateurs and professionals. The charity presents awards to students of horticulture at Capel Manor College, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, RHS Wisley, Writtle College and the Royal Parks.

Kate went on to talk about the make up of the Company and how it is organised and managed. She finished her talk by showing lovely photos of some of the countries and gardens visited by members. Thank you Kate for a most interesting presentation.

Please join us next month on Tuesday 21st September at 7.30 pm, via Zoom, when Lucy Hartley will be giving us the second part of her talk on "Designing a Border from Scratch".

Linda Truscott

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

**Welcome Packs for
New Biddenham Residents**
Contact Richard Church Tel: 214805

Now that Biddenham Village Hall has reopened here is a reminder of the regular events held there.

Regular Users of Biddenham Village Hall

September 2021



Monday	
Cha Char Chimps 10 a.m. Every week	Contact dizi@ccchimps.com www.ccchimps.com
Guides 7.15 p.m. termtime	Contact firstbiddenhamguideunit@outlook.com
Tuesday	
Café B 10.30 –12 noon (3 rd in month)	Coffee, tea and homemade cakes All welcome, just turn up
Mums & Movers Yoga 10.45 Mum & Baby Yoga 12.15	Contact Pippa Moss 07903 838006 pip@glowingwiththeflow.com
Peter's Picturehouse 7 for 7.30p.m. (1 st in month)	Cinema in the Village hall. Admission £5 Bar open, hot drinks, ice creams
Gardeners' Association 7.30 p.m. (3 rd in month) <i>Not restarting yet</i>	Contact Paula Church 602039 www.biddenhamgardenersassociation.org.uk
Country Dancing 8p.m. (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Contact John Riley on 01234 347567
Wednesday	
Baby College 10, 11a.m. & noon termtime	Contact tiffiny@babycollege.co.uk
Thursday	
Under 5's 9.30- 11.30 a.m. termtime	Contact: biddenhamunder5@gmail.com Twitter: @bidenhamunder5
Whist 7.30p.m. (2 nd & 4 th in month)	
Friday	
Pilates 8.30 & 9.30 a.m. Every week	Contact Jane Butcher 0789 1879 571
First Friday Lunch 12.30p.m. (1 st of the month)	Light lunch on 1 st Friday of every month Contact firstfridaylunch@outlook.com 07412 559584
Quilting & sewing 10.30-2.30 (last of the month)	Contact junemurphy51@hotmail.co.uk
No Fear Bridge (intermediates) 2.30p.m. weekly	Contact Bernard Henry 07866 456769 bahenry0309@gmail.com
Saturday	
Pregnancy Yoga 9.15 a.m. Every week	Contact Pippa Moss 07903 838006 pip@glowingwiththeflow.com
Sunday	
No Fear Bridge 6 -9p.m. weekly	Contact Bernard Henry 07866 456769 bahenry0309@gmail.com

To check availability and make a booking go to
www.biddenhamvillagehall.org.uk
Voicemail or text 07580 420 493

September

Fri 3 Sep	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p7
Sun 5 Sep	8.00am Service at All Saints 9.30am All Age Service (followed by said Holy Communion) at St James's
Sun 5 Sep	Pond Dip, Biddenham Village Pond, 2.00pm, see p13
Mon 6 Sep	9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Mon 6 Sep	Great Denham Parish Council, Community Hall, 7.30pm, see p13
Tue 7 Sep	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Wed 8 Sep	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Sat/Sun 11/12 Sep	Hashing, see p3
Sat 11 Sep	Great Denham Big Comeback Festival, Community Hall, 2.00pm - 8.00pm, see p1
Sun 12 Sep	9.30am Holy Communion Service at All Saints 6.30pm Service of Evening Prayer at St James's
Mon 13 Sep	9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Wed 15 Sep	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Sun 19 Sep	8.00am Service at All Saints 9.30am Holy Communion Service at St James's, Harvest Festival
Mon 20 Sep	9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Tue 21 Sep	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, see p9
Tue 21 Sep	Biddenham Parish Council, Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p6
Tue 21 Sep	Biddenham Gardeners Association meeting, Zoom, 7.30pm, see p14
Wed 22 Sep	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service
Sun 26 Sep	9.30am Holy Communion Service at All Saints
Mon 27 Sep	9.00am Morning Prayers via Zoom
Wed 29 Sep	6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service

October

Fri 1 Oct	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p7
Sun 3 Oct	8.00am Service at All Saints 9.30am All Age Service (followed by said Holy Communion) at St James's
Tue 5 Oct	Peter's Picturehouse, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Sat 16 Oct	The Friends of St James Quiz, Zoom, 7.30pm - 9.00pm, see p3
Tue 19 Oct	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, see p9

November

Sat 6 Nov	Pond work morning, 10.00am-noon, see p13
Sun 7 Nov	Biddenham Society Annual Lunch and AGM, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.30pm, see p11

For regular events at Biddenham Village Hall, see page 15

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

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.

Booking enquiries to biddenhampavilion@hotmail.co.uk or Debs Slade on 07808 579330.

Great Denham Community Hall

www.greatdenhamcommunityhall.co.uk



The Friends of St James

- the charity which helps conserve the church, churchyard and barn for future generations

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The Loop

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All **September** 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

Wednesday 22nd 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.