

The Loop

July/
August
2022



Jubilee Street Parties

The streets of Biddenham and Great Denham were transformed over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday weekend as they played host to a network of street parties. Neighbours came together to cook, bake, and hang strings of festive bunting.

Others held parties for friends and neighbours in their gardens.

A light drizzle didn't faze Church End residents who huddled under umbrellas and enjoyed an impressive buffet which included a large jubilee cake, cut by resident centenarian, Dr Jimmy Burt with a ceremonial sword.

The Biddenham Turn, Main Road and Day's Lane parties had to be moved indoors due to the rain, but even inclement weather couldn't spoil the fun as the photos on pages 8 and 9 show.

Janet Field



Dr Jimmy Burt cuts the Jubilee cake with a ceremonial sword at the Church End Street Party.

You can read more about Dr But in an interview to mark his hundredth birthday on page 7.

Fifty villagers enjoyed the First Friday Jubilee Lunch



Sunday 11th September
See pages 16 & 17 for details



Bulky waste collections

Biddenham 3rd September:

Pavilion 8.30am to 12.00 noon

Darlow Drive 1.00pm to 3.30pm

Great Denham 10th September

Near the first roundabout 1.00pm to 4.00pm

'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

We had a beautiful dark ceramic mug in our kitchen that was covered in gold-coloured butterflies. Did you know that the ancient Greek word for butterfly is *Ψυχή*, or psyche, which is also representative of the mind, the soul or the spirit. I do love these gorgeous creatures, and spend a significant amount of time trying to photograph them in flight, not so easy getting the autofocus on my camera to lock on to these things.

Getting our internal focussing mechanism to capture the psyche is virtually impossible, because the mind is so fundamentally messed up and all over the place and so predictable. It is so easy to say the wrong thing and sometimes on every level, a lie is best (and the most moral!). Our minds are fragile, which means that our relationships, our families, our communities, and even our world, is built on very unstable foundations.

I would like to say, of course, that because I am a vicar, I am unusually stable. The truth is that I am not, and for various personal reasons, I am finding my life and my ministry particularly difficult at the moment. With people who feel like this, self-assured religious comments by well meaning Christians can have all the pastoral impact of a bull-in-a-china-shop. People break easily, and to illustrate the point, I wandered into the kitchen after a bad night's sleep this morning and sent our beautiful butterfly mug crashing to our hard kitchen floor. Even the golden butterflies were fractured into hundreds of pieces.

I meet an awful lot of broken people in my ministry, and I have to say that the way I feel at times gives me a powerful, though sometimes misled sense of empathy. With pride, I can say that real empathy is a rare skill which



should be more readily available in our churches.

Why do I think that should be the case? Because the church should not be a holiday village for perfect people, but rather a hospital for the broken.

A week or so ago it was Trinity Sunday, when we explored the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Some of my Muslim and Jewish friends find this difficult because it appears to them that we believe in three Gods and not one. No, we only believe in one, but we do see in our faith, a fractured God (which is a wholly different thing), the one true God, broken for us in Jesus Christ.

I guess God was always the father of his people, and in Genesis, we find the Spirit (Hebrew *רוּחַ* (Ruach) which is actually a feminine noun for Wind, and Spirit, a bit like the Greek; *Ψυχή*, psyche and butterfly.), but then there is the word 'son,' which was, in the Old Testament, a reference to the people of God, Israel. Now 'the son' becomes 'Jesus' who was crucified and broken on the cross. Something beautiful happens here, which the theologian, Jurgen Moltmann describes as the 'Crucified God'. God himself, on the cross, in Jesus Christ, becomes a fractured God. He is broken from the Father, when he cries out; 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?' (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34), and he is broken from the Spirit, when he gives up his Spirit (Luke 23:46).

How clumsy we are, fragile humanity, that we have even managed to shatter the Godhead on the stones of Golgotha, but now we have a God who is our father, a God who is beside us in Jesus Christ, and a God who is in us, with his Spirit. He is broken, so that we who are fractured and broken may be made whole.

No matter how broken you are, like me, the church is the place for you because we have a great healer.

God bless.

Eric

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/>



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 Nash	Tel 364251 Tel 961826
Verger	Hilary Hurn	Tel 364251
Treasurer	Michael Hurford	Tel 271746
Organist/Choirmaster	Adam Wright	
www.stjamesbiddenham.com		

New trees in Biddenham



You may have noticed the street trees that were planted a few months ago along Deep Spinney and other selected streets in the village. These were sponsored by the Parish Council through the Trees for Streets scheme, in partnership with Bedford Borough Council.

A variety of semi-mature trees have been planted, including flowering cherry and pear, maple, alder, birch, magnolia and walnut trees. These will provide a beautiful year-round show while attracting pollinators and other wildlife.

If you'd like to sponsor a tree in your street, or a local park, head to the

Bedford page on the Trees for Streets website to make your donation: <https://treesforstreets.org/bedford>

Cassandra Oliver

The Parish Council is looking at planting more trees in Biddenham - see page 6.

New organist for St James's

In the last edition of The Loop, we bid farewell to St James's long-standing organist and choirmaster, Graham Weeks. This month, we caught up with his successor, Adam Wright, to find out how he's settling in.

Tell me about yourself

I'm from Doncaster originally and moved to Bedford in September to take up a post as a music teacher at Bedford Modern School.

Prior to that I was teaching at The Kings School Chester on a short-term maternity cover.

What got you interested in the organ?

I was five when I first wanted to play the organ. I just liked the sound and what it could do. My family were involved in the church, and I was in the choir, so it just went from there. I started the piano first and moved onto the organ when I was fifteen.

Where were you playing the organ before St James's?

I studied in Manchester and graduated in 2019. Then I did my PGCE in 2020 and, while I was studying, I was playing at a church in Altrincham. I played there throughout the lockdown, though in the final year it was not actually in the church, but via zoom.

Do you play any other instruments?

I play piano and organ. Organ is my main instrument. I also got Grade 8 in bassoon, though I haven't done much with it since sixth form. I started picking it up again in September and now play when needed in the school orchestra. I also do some singing.

What are your plans for St James's?

Over the last few weeks, I've been settling in and getting the choir back to how they were pre-pandemic. We're getting back into usual routines and rehearsals. I hope to maybe expand the choir and introduce new music once we're settled and know how many regulars there are. We have a good core of singers and there's lots of enthusiasm. I've gone with the philosophy, start with what everyone knows, then introduce new music as and when necessary.

What's been your best experience of playing the organ?

I did quite a few concerts at college. I did a Christmas Spectacular at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester which was a highlight. I also did a few services in cathedrals, and I've always enjoyed the recitals.

What are you currently rehearsing at St James's?

We're getting ready for Choral Evensong which recently resumed. It's the 5th Sunday of the month (when there is one). We're learning some pieces, focusing on the music, and making some improvements to the choir.

What advice would you give to young people aspiring to play the organ?

Just give it a go. Find someone who has access to an organ and ask if you can have a go. The first step is to get used to how it works - the sounds, stops, and registrations. See what you can do with the organ and experience the power behind it when its going full belt.

And if you want to go from there, find someone who's willing to teach you. You also need to think about how you could fit lessons in. An organ is not readily accessible because of where it's usually played.

The more you get to know the organ, the more you realise its versatility. It's not always loud. There's a great technique in playing it, and you need to be sensitive to the occasion. It's good for any young person.

Is it a big step to go from a piano to an organ?

In a sense yes. It's not the same touch. With a piano you can play a chord and hold that note just by pressing the foot pedal and you can then let go with your hands. On an organ, as soon as you let go of the key the sound is gone. So, it's different technically with your hands. If

you're transitioning from the piano, it's about getting used to the touch of the hands first and then start slowly adding the feet. Once you've mastered that, it's all about working with the organ. So, it's similar in a way because it's the same set of keys, but there are some major differences. You tend to find that organists can play the piano, but pianists can't necessarily play the organ.

Do you have a favourite piece of organ music?

There's so much, going all the way back to the 17th century to modern day, that it's difficult to choose just one. I do like Bach. Most organists would say that.

What do you do in your spare time?

I do quite a bit of reading and go running regularly. I also enjoy going to quizzes when I can.

Janet Field



Biddenham Handbell Ringers

Biddenham Handbell Ringers played during the service at St James's Church on Sunday 5th June to give thanks for the Platinum Jubilee. We started with a selection of patriotic pieces as people arrived including Rule Britannia, Ode to Joy and Royal Fireworks, and finished at the end with 'Celebration 70' a piece specially written for handbell teams throughout the country to play on this occasion.

Anthea Slark

Nick Sleep
Proprietor

N.A.Sleap Plumbing & Heating

7 Ison Close
Biddenham,
Beds MK40 4BH

Tel: 01234 959472

Mob: 07990 598154

Email: nicksleap@live.co.uk





From Our Biddenham Village Agent

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

Help With Energy Bills

To help people with the additional cost of energy, the Government have made a series of announcements about financial support. If you are confused about what you might get, here is a brief summary. These payments are not taxable and do not affect eligibility for other benefits.

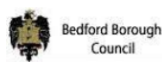
- Households will get £400 of support in the form of a grant. It will not be claimed back through higher bills in future. This will be paid by a credit to your energy bill, or applied to your pre-payment meter from October 2022. You will still get the reduction if you switch supplier.
- Households in Council Tax Bands A to D are entitled to an energy subsidy of £150. If you pay your Council Tax by Direct Debit you should have already received payment.
- £650 one-off cost of living payment to people on means-tested benefits, paid in two instalments. This payment will be tax-free.
- Pensioner households will receive a one-off £300 cost of living payment, paid alongside the Winter Fuel Allowance. You are eligible if you reached pension age before 19-25 Sept 2022.
- People who qualify for disability benefit will receive a one-off payment of £150 in September.

For people who are still struggling, the Government is providing an extra £500M via the Household Support Fund, which is administered by local councils, to help with the rising cost of food, energy and water bills.

If you need help with any of these payments, or any other matters, just call our Freephone and I will contact you.

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.)



Biddenham Conservation Volunteers

Biddenham Conservation Volunteers have continued a varied work programme and will do so throughout the summer holidays.

We will be majoring on habitat surveying in Cowslip Meadow. This has a number of purposes. It improves our knowledge of plants, trees and shrubs growing there and it will help us to plan our work programme of scrub clearance and tree coppicing in the winter. We are working on a comprehensive management plan for the meadow to maintain and improve its biodiversity so to do this we need to record what we find. For instance, any extra tree planting will reflect what we don't already have growing in the meadow margins.

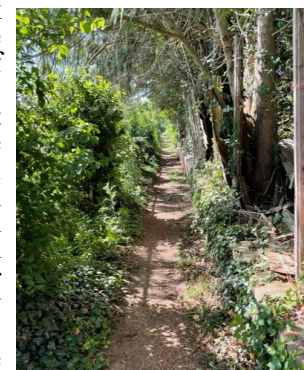
Another task is footpath work and you may have noticed surface improvements to a number of paths around the village. Some grass cutting has been carried out but this is mostly left to the Borough Council team who will be working their way round on the usual seasonal vegetation campaign. The new smart field gates complement some of our work; they have been installed by The Biddenham Estate contractor.

Tasks scheduled for the summer are listed below.

We hope to announce further tasks so please let us know your details so that we can email you about activities coming up.



Orchids in Cowslip Meadow



The cleared footpath from Vicar's Close

Chris Jones

Contact chrishj49@gmail.com or gillycowan@btinternet.com

Monday 4th July. Flower & tree surveying in Cowslip Meadow 10.00am meet by the church

Wednesday 3rd August. Flower surveying in cowslip meadow details as above

Monday 15th August. Flower surveying details as above

Monday 5th September. More flower surveying as above

W&H PEACOCK AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS



Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email info@peacockauction.co.uk

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

www.peacockauction.co.uk

Eastcotts Park,
Wallis Way,
Bedford, MK42 0PE

01234 266366

NB
NEW BOMBAY
01234 218 218
ORDER ONLINE AT
www.newbombay.co.uk

River Festival returns

Two-day event

Bedford River Festival is returning on Saturday 23rd to Sunday 24th July. This two-day event is free to attend and will be held across multiple locations including The Embankment, Russell Park, St Mary's Gardens, and Mill Meadows.

The programme includes raft and dragon boat races, boat parades, a water sports arena, eight live music stages, a heritage village with re-enactments, a fun fair, food and drink and a continental market.

Bands on the Bridge

For the first time, Bedford Town Bridge will be transformed into a performance area where local brass bands, pipe bands and clarinet bands will serenade visitors.

ONE HUNDRED Motoring display

This year the High Street will also be closed to play host to the ONE HUNDRED Motoring Display which will be part of the River Festival for the first time.

Over 100 iconic cars from every era will be displayed along the length of the High Street and around St Paul's Square, including a selection of supercars and one of Britain's oldest cars, a 1904 Ford Model C.

There will also be a display of large American cars at Riverside Square.

For updates, visit: <https://riverfestival.bedford.gov.uk/>.

Janet Field



Biddenham History Society

The next meeting of the Society will be on Monday 4th July from 2.30pm – 4.30pm in the Church Barn.

Hugh Clifton will be giving a presentation about the Noel family who lived at Amptill Park in the nineteenth century and their aristocratic connections. He promises us plenty of variety: 'a cookery lesson from the Amptill kitchens; suggestions for making artificial flowers; tales of glamorous parties down the road at Wrest Park; a story of transportation to Australia; affairs with glamorous French opera stars; meetings with Emperor Napoleon and the Duke of Wellington; and even a story of professional heavyweight boxing, which involves the World Champion, the Boston strong boy'. This will certainly be an interesting and entertaining afternoon.

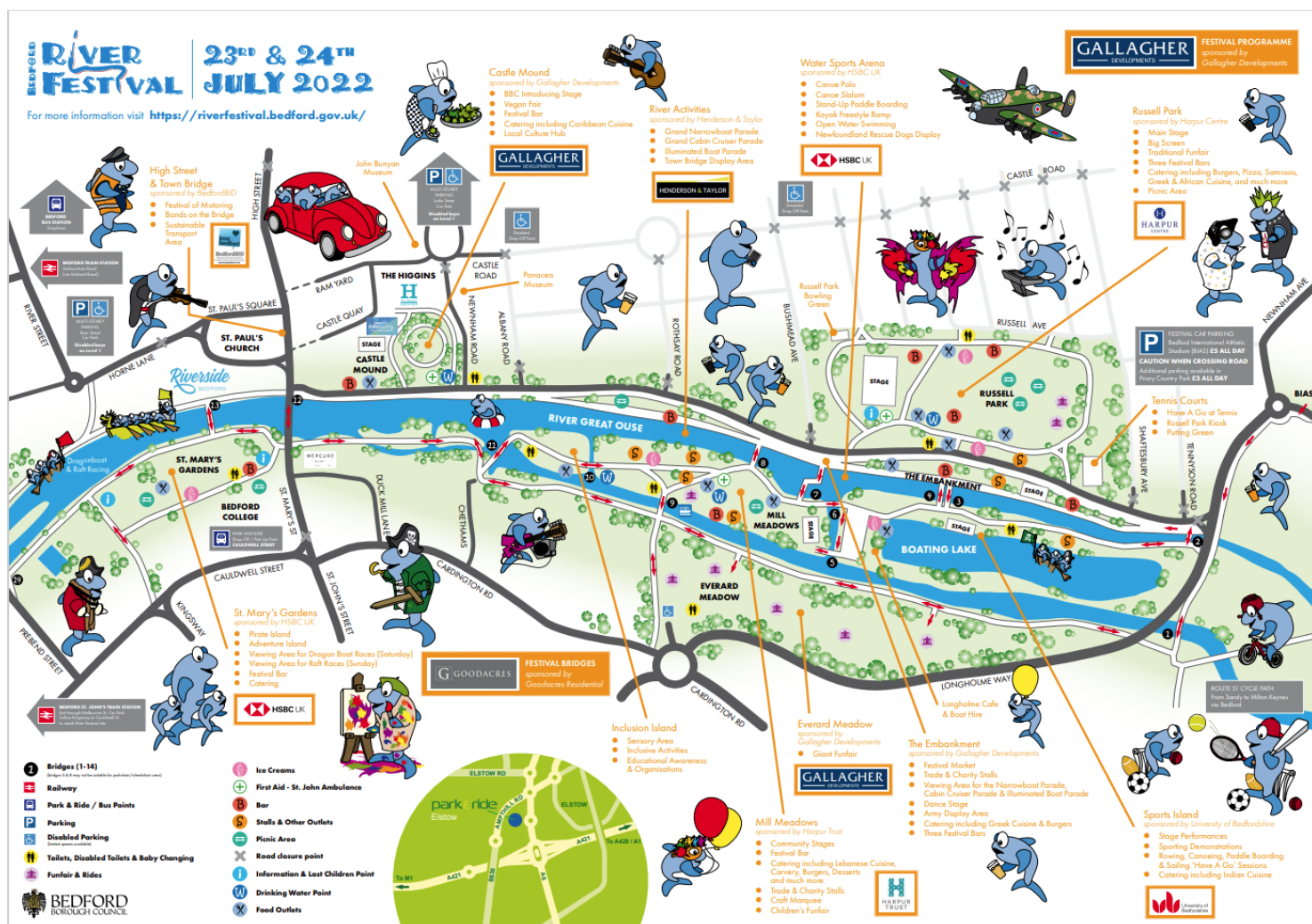
Looking ahead to September, on Monday 19th September from 2.30pm – 4.30pm in the Church Barn, Peter Applewhite will be telling us more about his discoveries concerning Biddenham. There will be further details in the September edition of the Loop, but please save the date.

Kathy Fricker

Great Denham Summer Festival

The Great Denham Summer Festival at the Community Hall – Saturday 2nd July 2.00 - 6.00pm

Also, don't forget, Great Denham Parish Council meeting – Monday 4th July at 7.30pm, Community Hall



You can download a copy of this map and the programme at <https://riverfestival.bedford.gov.uk/>

Biddenham Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 14th June 2022 at the Pavilion. Present at the meeting were Parish Councillors Graham Bates, Harry Fowler and Chris Gee. Apologies were received from Peter Chase, Karen Cotton, Irina Madan-Sau, Francia Slade and Krzys Osuch. Also present were the Clerk, David Brough, myself and our two Borough Councillors, Jon Gambold and Roger Rigby.

While few in number the meeting was quorate so there were sufficient Councillors present to be able to make the necessary decisions regarding approvals of spending incurred and consider issues on the Agenda.

One issue was the feasibility report received from the Borough regarding the provision of pedestrian refuges in Bromham Road. The aim is to provide safer places to



cross and also, as a consequence, see a reduction in the instances of speeding. Given the importance of this matter to the Parish (having funded the report) those present agreed to defer this item to the July meeting when hopefully a full discussion can be had and a preferred way forward agreed.

One item that was discussed and agreed was to consider further investment in the 'Trees for Streets' initiative which last year saw forty new trees planted in the Parish. I can think of a few locations where more trees can be planted and I hope that our residents can also provide us with some suggestions. Do let our Clerk know. The only limitation is that the trees must be planted on Parish or Borough owned land so some parts of Biddenham are excluded; for example, Main Road and large parts of the St Mary's estate where the land is privately owned.

I also updated the meeting about an exciting project that Bromham Parish Council would like to pursue and if successful would see a separate footbridge over the Great Ouse by Bromham Mill. This would negate the need for pedestrians (and cyclists) to use the existing ancient bridge thus avoiding the vehicle and pedestrian conflicts that regularly occur. Bromham Parish Council has plans to increase the activities at the Mill and with the new doctor's surgery planned for the Gold Lane roundabout area (eventually!) concurrent with the closure of one in Bromham, there is an expectation footfall will increase along the route. As we share a boundary with Bromham Parish and given 7 of the 10 arches to Bromham Bridge are within our boundary Bromham Parish have asked for our support 'in principle' to such a project. I think it would be a great benefit to residents of both Parishes and this was shared by my fellow Councillors. While this project is still at a very early stage and has many obstacles to overcome as the saying goes 'from little acorns....'

Finally, there was a lengthy discussion about the consultation that has started on new Bedford Borough Local Plan 2040 for Submission and its implications for Biddenham. On the face of it, it doesn't look like any major developments are planned for Biddenham – probably as most spaces have been filled! The short leaflet distributed to households is silent on the former Golf Course between Biddenham and Great Denham so it appears this hasn't been put forward yet by the landowner.

However, between the start and finish of developing a new Local Plan many things can change so the Parish Council will be keeping an eye out for any significant proposals that may impact on the village as the plan is developed. Ultimately it will not be a decision for the Parish but one made by the Borough but if we don't make of views known then we are abrogating our responsibilities to our residents, even if we know from experience it has little or limited impact on the decision makers.

Date of the next meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th July 2022 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney and all are welcome.

Stewart Briggs
Chair

Need some help
with your
trees?

STS
Simply Tree Services

- All aspects of tree maintenance to BS3998
- All hedge work undertaken
- Tree removal and stump grinding

☎ **01234 765 000**

☎ **07866 554 673**

enquiries@simplytreeservices.co.uk

www.simplytreeservices.co.uk

Fully NPTC qualified staff and all work is covered
by comprehensive public liability insurance



FARM SHOP

Manor Farm, High Street, Stagsden, Beds
(01234) 822330

www.brownsstagsden.co.uk

HOME REARED & LOCALLY PRODUCED

MEAT, POULTRY, GAME, SEASONAL VEGETABLES, EGGS & MILK.

HOMEMADE PREMIUM QUALITY BURGERS & SAUSAGES

REGIONAL CHEESES, HAM, PIES, JAMS, SAUCES, OILS & MORE

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

100 years of a life well-lived

Church End resident, Dr James (Jimmy) Burt, a retired GP, celebrated his 100th birthday on 21st May. Born in Fife, Scotland, he survives his wife, Mina, a Dundee girl. He has two sons, David, a consultant anaesthetist, and Alistair, former MP for North East Bedfordshire, as well as five grandchildren and one great grandchild. Over coffee, he talked about his long, fascinating life, including his time in the RAF where he flew in Lancaster bombers.



Jimmy with his sons at Moggerhanger

I got a card from the Queen. That's the second time; the first was on our platinum wedding anniversary. We went to Buckingham Palace on our golden anniversary and met the Queen. She was very friendly and said: "Philip and I celebrate ours next year."

For my birthday I was also taken on a private tour of RAF Scampton, where I was stationed in the 1940s. The



How did you celebrate your 100th birthday?

I had a special lunch at Moggerhanger House with the whole family and a few close friends. Afterwards I planted a beech tree in the grounds to replace a 100-year-old tree that had died. It's marked with a plaque. I didn't want any presents, though I did receive a lot of booze.

I got a card from the Queen. That's the second time; the first was on our platinum wedding anniversary. We went to Buckingham Palace on our golden anniversary and met the Queen. She was very friendly and said: "Philip and I celebrate ours next year."

For my birthday I was also taken on a private tour of RAF Scampton, where I was stationed in the 1940s. The guard was interested in the badge I was wearing; it was a Vulcan badge presented to me because my name is going on a plaque under the wing of a Vulcan that's being restored.

We visited the Heritage Centre, where they showed me lots of old photographs and wanted to know what it used to be like. We then had

a wonderful lunch with senior officers in the officers' mess where they surprised me with birthday gifts. Afterwards, I toured the station, and they said: "There's no such thing as Bomber Command anymore. It's just the Air Force."

What inspired you to become a GP?

I'd always wanted to be a GP. My stepbrother had been a GP, but he died before the War. I studied at St Andrew's and at medical school in Dundee, where I met my wife.

I'd been in the Officers' Training Corp at university which was attached to The Black Watch. When military service became mandatory, I knew right away I wanted to go into the Air Force. I joined RAF Bomber Command in Lincolnshire as a Medical Officer from 1946 to 1948.

I was married by this time, but I was still 24. The Commanding Officer told me I couldn't live on the station because they didn't recognise marriage until officers were 25. My wife was a bit peeved about that.

Did you get to fly?

Yes. I told my Commanding Officer that I'd never been in an aeroplane. I had to speak to aircrews about aviation medicine, so I asked if I could get up in a plane.

The following morning, they had an air test, and I was taken up in a Lancaster. There was only the pilot, the flight engineer, and the navigator. No gunners. The pilot, who was 19, told me to stand behind him and when we got to 5,000 feet and levelled off, he'd put me in a position where I would get a good view of the countryside. When we got to 5,000 feet, he put me in the bomb aimer's seat, right in the nose of the aircraft. It was uncomfortable and just about the worst place in the aircraft except for the rear gunner's seat. But I had a wonderful view as we flew over

Lincolnshire for about an hour. When we got back, he asked: "How do you feel?" I realised it had been a test. But I felt fine and thoroughly enjoyed it.

After that, I went up at every opportunity, first on the Lancasters and when they were replaced, I flew on the Lincolns.

I was based at RAF Waddington. One night RAF Coningsby was fogged in and there were five mosquitos to bring in. We were a master airfield and had H2S (radar) so we were able to bring them in on radar. One of planes crash landed and went up in flames, killing the crew.

After that I was transferred to RAF Coningsby as Medical Officer. There I got to fly in Mosquitos - another notch on my gun.

When the Americans were transferred to RAF Scampton, I was moved there to work in the hospital with them. On the first night, I was taken to dinner in the officers' mess. We were on rations at RAF Waddington, but the Americans had everything. It was the first time I'd seen corn on the cob. I ate in the mess all the time after that. They were flying B-29s, so I went up in a B29 as well.

When I was coming up to my last couple of months, I finished up at RAF Binbrook. I didn't want to go because I thought it was the back boy's station. Only to find 617 Squadron - the Dambusters - were stationed there, and I got to fly with them.

Tell me about your time as a GP

When I left the RAF, I ended up in Bury in Lancashire. I only intended to stay for two years to help a doctor who was ill. When I went for the interview, he introduced me to his partner who turned out to be the captain of the university golf club where I'd played. I was offered a partnership very quickly, and we ended up staying almost 50 years.

I was always involved in medical politics. I was secretary of the local medical committee for 25 years, and I was president of the local branch of the BMA. I was also chairman of the family practitioners committee.

I understand you were interested in football

I supported Bury FC and held a season ticket from 1949, when we moved there, until we left in 1998. My insurance broker had been in the Air Force, and we hit it off straight away. He was a Bury supporter and when Bury built their new stand, he was the insurance broker for the club. We got to know the club owner and when the new seating was built, we picked out our two seats where we always sat together until I left in 1998.

I also supported Manchester United and used to take the boys to matches. Alistair was a keen footballer. He once played with Bobby Charlton who stepped in to play when the Westminster Wobblers (the parliamentary football team) were a man short.

What brought you to Biddenham?

Alistair was our MP in Bury and lived 100 yards from us. After he lost his seat in 1997, he was headhunted by a firm in London. David was a consultant anaesthetist at Guy's Hospital in London and always wanted us to live closer to him.

I didn't want to live in London. So, when Alistair moved to Bedford, we decided to move here too. A GP friend had a daughter in Bedfordshire, and Biddenham was one of the areas she suggested.

We soon settled in, and I wouldn't leave for anybody now. We've got lovely neighbours and all the family is close by.

Is there anything you haven't done that you wish you had done?

The only thing I wish I had done was go down the Nile. We travelled all over the world, and I always wanted to go down the Nile but never did. But I've had such a happy life. And I was lucky to have a job which I loved.

Janet Field

Photographs courtesy of Tom Cubis



Biddenham Turn

Biddenham Turn residents retreated indoors - with a large number of puddings.

Thanks to Liz Watson for the photograph.



Church End

Church End residents partied in fine style with plenty of patriotic food and drink. They even managed a slightly damp Hokey Cokey!

Thanks to Liz Hurford for the photographs.



Day's Lane

The Village Hall was the venue for the Day's Lane residents, organised in very short order by the committee.

The programme included music, quizzes, a crown making competition and lots of food and drink.

Photographs by Jean Gambold.



Main Road

The Main Road party also moved to the Village Hall and it included residents of Gold Lane, Duck End Lane, Vicars Close and Noddors Way, so quite a gathering.

Thanks to Jas Purewal and Janet Field for the photographs.



The Biddenham Society

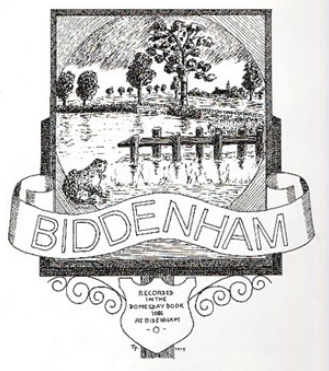
The Biddenham Society was set up over 50 years ago to:

1. Stimulate public interest in, and care for, the beauty, history and character of the area of the village and its surroundings;
2. Encourage the preservation, development, and improvement of features of general public amenity and historic interest; and
3. Encourage high standards of architecture and village planning in Biddenham.

Over the years Objective (1) has mainly been met through the AGM and Ploughman's Lunch towards the end of each calendar year. This has always been well attended, with historically between 80 and 100 people present; more recent years have seen these numbers reduce to 60-70.

Objective (2) has often been addressed in conjunction with the Parish Council which has a major remit in this area; the most recent feature for this was the Biddenham Heritage Trail (a Tony Wood legacy), providing three scenic walks around the village.

In most years however, it has been Objective (3) which has been the main focus of the Society's efforts, through the scrutiny of all planning applications relating to the village and its immediate environs, close dialogue with the Borough's Planning Department staff, and the occasional submission of letters of objection to specific applications, (backed up with attendance at Planning Committee meetings when necessary). Thanks for the value of the



submissions goes to the work of the previous chairmen and Monica Knight (our resident architectural historian) as well as Committee members as a whole and as a result, our responses over the years have been well researched and of high quality. The consequence is that the Biddenham Society is held in high regard by the Planning Department and has achieved many tangible successes in influencing the development in and around the village.

The extent of development in the village is ongoing – significant developments on the boundaries continue and we shall continue to resist extensions to the Gold Lane development as well as those on or related to the old Golf Course.

We are currently reviewing the 2040 Local Plan carefully and maintaining the green space between us and Great Denham and Bromham must remain a critical part of this.

Many applications are around development on individual houses and are generally (but not always) less contentious. We may resist the demolition of existing houses when they will be replaced by dynasty-style mansions but each one will be considered on its merits and architectural design. However, to be honest, many people seem to be less concerned about the development around them and in the village and the erosion of community-spirit that might entail. A shame but nevertheless a reality.

As a result of this, the Biddenham Society is considering what else it could or should do to extend its remit for the benefit of both the community, the village and, indeed, the local area (how far that might extend will be something for consideration in itself) while staying reasonably close to the original remit established over 50 years ago. It is considering how it should liaise and work with other village organisations to ensure that we do not duplicate work, perhaps developing our own areas of expertise from which the others can benefit, but, most importantly, that collectively we can provide an increased benefit to the community and village as a whole.

So, if you have ideas about what you think the Biddenham Society should be doing differently or how it should be going about it, please let me know. This will enable us to develop our own forward-looking long-term strategy and plans to help achieve updated, current and modern objectives while maintaining the Society's historical remit. I look forward to hearing all ideas and thoughts on this.

Will Jenkin
Chair, Biddenham Society
wrcjenkin@gmail.com

ARE YOU A LAWN LOVER?

From as little as
£15*
per treatment
* Based on a lawn size up to 40m²

HELP YOUR LAWN TO THRIVE, NOT JUST SURVIVE

Over the last 30 years our love for lawns has grown and grown (just like our grass!). We combine our passion and enthusiasm with innovative technology as we continue to revolutionise UK Lawn Care.

Our groundbreaking 12-month **Lawn Treatment Programmes**, keep your grass looking its best all year round, ensuring your lawn receives the love and attention it deserves.

Let's create the lawn we both love

Start your Lawn Care journey today:
Call us on 01234 709345/01480 597432
email: bedford@greenthumb.co.uk
visit: greenthumb.co.uk/bedford

GreenThumb
LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE



The Junior Heritage Trail information board at St James' School

Escape to the Country



Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity made a star appearance on a recent episode of Escape to the Country, aired on Tuesday 31st May 2022.

The episode followed Chris and Albert's search for a home in Bedfordshire. It opened with a clip early on of our Environment and Community Officer Mike Fayers, who is involved in our Wellbeing Walks and Good Neighbour Schemes:

"There are some beautiful villages in Bedfordshire, it's really lovely looking round. So although I've lived here as long as I have, I've still got a lot more exploring to do." - Mike Fayers

With 800 miles of public right-of-way in Central Bedfordshire alone, the county is filled with places to walk, run and cycle. Our deputy CEO Cliff Andrews shared about the Biggleswade Green Wheel in today's episode, which BedsRCC was involved in bringing about. Cliff explained how the Green Wheel benefits the local community, explaining the many ways it gets used. When asked who uses the Green Wheel, Cliff said:

"Everyone. Loads of people from the local community, runners, walkers, cyclists, parents with buggies, parents teaching kids to ride their bike, dog walkers, everyone."

The episode highlighted how the Friends of Biggleswade Green Wheel look after the Biggleswade Green Wheel by keeping the vegetation off the path so it's clear for everyone to use.

We also saw a Wellbeing Walk in action; they regularly use the Green Wheel for walks. One wellbeing walker explained the importance of paths like these:

"It's just uplifting. ... It really is very pleasant to just go out and forget all your worries."

As well as featuring some of our staff here at BedsRCC, the episode also highlighted how important volunteers are to the work we do. If you're interested in getting involved and making a difference to your local community, visit the volunteering page of our website (www.bedsrcc.org.uk).

Watch the Bedfordshire episode (Series 22 Episode 52) of Escape to the Country on BBC iPlayer.

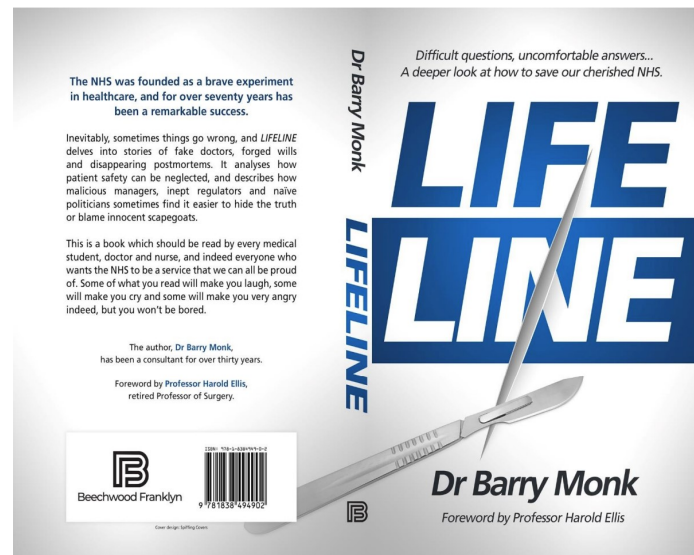
Café B...



Tuesday 19th July, 16th August
Biddenham Village Hall
 10.15 am - 11.45am

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

Next café 20th September



Lifeline was written by Biddenham resident, Dr Barry Monk and is available from Amazon, Waterstones and other bookshops.

Dr Monk is happy to sign copies and to talk to book groups or other interested organisations.

You can contact him on barrymonk@doctors.org.uk.



QUERCUS TREE SPECIALISTS
 ENVIRONMENT - CONSERVATION - NEXT GENERATION

ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK CARRIED OUT

REMOVALS | CROWN REDUCTIONS / THINNING | FRUIT TREES
 HEDGE WORK | PLANTING | PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**FREE QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE
 CALL LUKE**

07972 183185
INFO@QUERCUSTREES.COM
 @QUERCUSTREESPECIALISTS

**FULLY INSURED & NPTC QUALIFIED
 ALL WORK CARRIED OUT
 TO BRITISH STANDARDS**

Arborisk City & Guilds NPTC Qualified
 Arboricultural insurance experts

This month in the garden

There is nothing so satisfying as growing things; a sentiment I heard recently and I would add to that - and watching the rain fall gently on the things that are growing. Not a day to be gardening today but a day to be in my office starting on my article for July. As I write this contribution during the first week of June, I am reflecting that it is now six months since I took up the baton from Jeremy. In February I was delighting in the swathes of snowdrops in my own and other people's gardens. We were also enjoying the very first narcissus - Spring Dawn is always the first to appear in my garden as early as late January and knowing that there would be a succession of narcissus ending with the delicate Pheasant's-eye in April/May, a very old variety with a beautiful scent which brings back memories of my parents' garden where they had been planted in the 1940s and 50s in great profusion. As we were deadheading our narcissus we were looking forward to the first tulips and then onwards to alliums and now we have an abundance of roses - what a splendid time and all the while the shrubs, hedges and trees have been doing their thing and providing wondrous habitat for birds. This year the bird song seems better than ever and I have had so many bird visitors to my garden including, this morning, a pair of goldfinches who put in fairly regular appearances.

Sadly, I no longer hear the sound of the cuckoo in Biddenham. When we came here in 1982 we heard their call for a number of years - but not now. Great excitement though when I was in Suffolk a couple of weeks ago we heard the distinctive call as we walked across Dunwich Heath - what a fabulous sound. So back to the garden - last night I staked my peonies - good thing as the heavy rain today would certainly have taken its toll on them.

What joy the roses are giving us at this time of the year and so easy to pick just one bud for the house and create an

instant uplifting effect. I have Shropshire Lad growing up the side of the house and I sometimes wish that we had bought St Swithin's instead as it is very similar and our granddaughter was born on St Swithin's day eighteen years ago.

However, about ten years ago a rose sprang up in our back garden gravel path, nowhere near any of our other roses, and so we assumed a bird had dropped a seed. We transplanted this small rose into the garden and trained it up an obelisk and it has provided an abundance of June blooms ever since. We were told that, as it was a new rose, we could call it what we liked and so, as our granddaughter was named Beatrice Rose, after her two great grandmothers, we named our rose Rosa Beatrice Rose.



Rosa Beatrice Rose

My other favourites are Rosa Bonica and Rosa Queen of Sweden - which I first saw at Easton Walled Garden in Lincolnshire, a garden I would so recommend for a visit at this time of the year especially if you are as passionate about sweet peas as I am, they always have a magnificent display. Prune climbers and rambling roses after they have finished flowering. This long deadheading - cutting back quite hard to a bud leaves the plant looking tidier. The actual amount you remove depends on the vigour of the individual variety. A strong growing Rambler that makes a lot of long growth will need quite long pieces cut back to say 15cm or so from the main framework of the plant, smaller, slower growing varieties may only need 15cm of growth removed in total.

Excitingly my Lilium Regale are all in bud getting ready for a lovely display in a few weeks. On a July evening they provide a wonderful scent. I feel sad each time I pick off the beautiful red lily beetles but without my intervention the leaves are decimated and I haven't come across anything that predates these beetles. The buds on my agapanthus are also appearing. They are now very pot bound; I must re-pot them next year. Agapanthus do produce more flowers if their roots are confined but the time does come when they need dividing and June is a good time to do this. Like all plants, if grown in pots, when repotting just repot into the next size up - plants like only a small amount of compost to grow into.

Each month as well as enjoying the here and now gardeners are always forward planning and July is the month when it is possible to extend the life of or increase one's stock of plants. Now is the time to divide and replant bearded iris. Carefully lift the rhizomes, discard the oldest bits from the middle of the plant and divide up the healthy young material. Cut the leaves back to half their length, work some general fertiliser into the soil and lay the rhizomes horizontally along the ground and with only the roots and the lower half of the rhizome buried. Bearded iris do like to be baked by the sun unlike the Siberica varieties which favour a damper soil. I do like geraniums or cranesbills and have many varieties in my garden. I noted that, at Chelsea Flower Show this year, a new variety Geranium Intense was introduced and I have ordered this - it is a vibrant pink, is short and compact and provides good ground cover and can cope, apparently, with dry soil and partial shade. I will let you know how I get on with it - it won't be with me until September. A geranium I can whole heartedly recommend for shady conditions is



Lilium regale

Geranium Phaeum. Joe Swift had them in his Bee garden at Chelsea. It has dusky purple flowers and has been a magnet for the bees in my garden. It will be starting to go over soon and, along with all the other geraniums, I will be cutting it back to ground level. This tidies things up a bit as geraniums can get straggly and they will spring up anew in a few weeks time and provide a second flush of flowers. Do cut back your lavender as soon as it has finished flowering as this enables the plant to regenerate ready for flowering next year but do not cut into the old wood - if you do the plant will be finished.

I have been planting ferns this year. When I was visiting Cambridge Botanic Garden in May I came across Polystichum Setiferum - the soft shield fern. A fern that was new to me - it was just unfurling and was a lovely combination of green and brown and silver - so delightful. Ferns need to be planted with other plants for best effect - bergenia, hostas, heucheras all provide a good foil. But best of all is a stumpery where the ferns are nestled in pockets of soil in upended tree roots from trees that have fallen or been brought down by storms. Have you seen the one at Ickworth House? I visited with a friend a few weeks ago - oh to have a vast garden with room for a stumpery and gardeners to manoeuvre the upended tree stumps into place - I can only dream!

Were your cosmos awful last year? Mine were - they grew to six feet tall and didn't produce any flowers until September, several friends fared the same with theirs. I heard on a Sarah Raven podcast that the problem lies with the climate of the country where the seed is produced. She recommends that once the plant has three pairs of leaves one takes out the growing shoot in order to make a bushy plant that will produce more flowers. As Sarah says "If in doubt, pinch out". I have done that this year to all of mine so I live in hope of a better display. I am currently taking soft wood cuttings of lavender, rosemary, salvias. Chose a non-flowering shoot, as soon as you have cut them put them into a polythene bag to stop them wilting, take off the lower leaves, cut the stem to just below a leaf node and insert the cuttings into a free draining compost mix (half potting compost and half horticultural grit or Perlite) water. Cover with a polythene bag to keep in the moisture, place in a light, shady place and in a few weeks time you will have rooted cuttings ready to pot on.

As soon as the first flowers appear on tomato plants start a weekly feeding regime with a high potash fertiliser. It is important to water consistently; irregular watering sometimes leads to the fruit splitting and, of course, take out the side shoots as soon as they appear. In late July up until mid August "stop" tomatoes i.e pinch out the growing tip if you have five trusses or so. This prevents the growing stem growing further and diverts all the plant's resources into swelling and ripening the remaining fruit. In dry weather keep runner beans well watered and spray the flowers with clear water to increase the humidity around the plants - this helps the beans to set. July and August are the months to enjoy the fruits of our earlier labours - whether it be flowers, fruit or vegetables.

The sun is now shining so I am going outside to start picking the first of my red currants. Happy gardening and happy harvesting.

Linda Truscott

The Leprosy Mission

A big thank you to all those with Leprosy Mission collecting boxes who contributed to the grand total of £489.81 raised this year.

Anyone willing to have a Leprosy Mission collecting box in their home for their unwanted coins (to be emptied in May each year) or to make a donation please contact me on 01234 346550.

John Gardner

Golf Day raised over £19,000

Thanks to the generosity of Bedfordshire golfers, two very deserving local good causes, Youth Inspired and Kids in Action, each received cheques for £9,500 at the 31st St Philip and St James Golf Society Charity Golf Day held at Pavenham Park Golf Club, on 27th May 2022. Another £198 was collected on the golf course from golfers buying refreshments sold by Youth Inspired and Kids in Action at the ninth hole.

This was another record year for St Philip and St James Golf Society with 113 golfers making their way round the course, followed by a most enjoyable meal in the club house. This year's amazing effort means that the Society has now raised more than £123,000 for local charities over the 31 years it's been running.

The Society would like to thank all the golfers, sponsors, Pavenham Park Golf Club, those who donated items for the Silent Auction and Raffle and everyone who helped to make it another successful day.

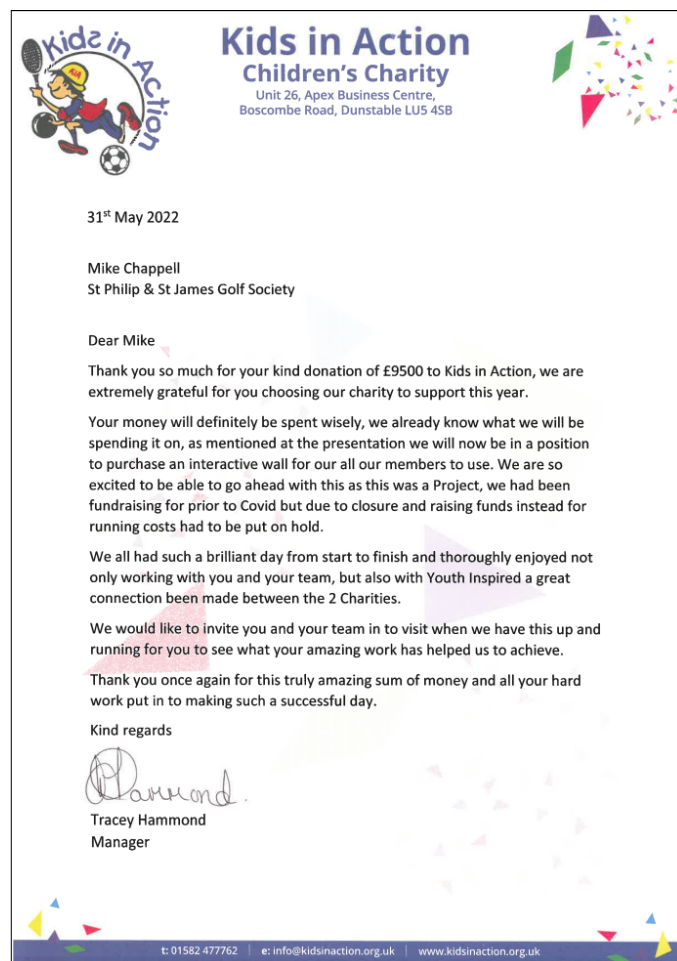
For more details on St Philip & St James Charity Golf Society, to take part in next year's Charity Golf Day on 2nd June 2023, to become a sponsor or if you'd simply like to donate, please get in touch with one of the committee or LIKE us on Facebook – SS Philip and James Golf Society.

Steve Wilson

St Philip and St James Golf Society

Tel: 07528 225003

Email: Stevewilson946@gmail.com



Biddenham Cricket Club

As we reach the half way point of the cricket season there have been some notable performances by our teams.

The Under 9 team have been successful in the majority of their matches. The Under 15 team have won all their matches so far so are well placed to possibly reach the County final at the end of August. The adult league side on Sundays recorded a notable win at Bedford last weekend having scored an impressive 275 in 40 overs. Captain Ross Cunningham leads the way with his bowling having taken 17 wickets already this season.

With school holidays approaching soon the junior season will effectively come to a close at the end of July. Time perhaps to put on record the hard work and dedication of the organisers, coaches and assistants who have given their time generously to enable the junior section of over 80 youngsters to function so well. The main contributors are Chris Spurgeon, Jagtar Singh, Nick and Katie Ulvert, Julian Krishna, Angus McIntyre, Lee Butterworth, Nick Gauntlett and Allan Dear.

Regular visitors to the Pavilion Field may have noticed that improvements have been made to the cricket nets in recent weeks. The club's policy has always been to leave these open for all to use as an encouragement for participation in cricket.

Details of July's home fixtures are included below..

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
Youth Chairman	Chris Spurgeon	07707 771606
Cricket Secretary	Richard Fone	07818 678697
Club Welfare Officer	Katie Ulvert	07739 286783
100 Club	James Gardner	07928 478563



The refurbished nets



This bench in memory of John Wagstaff, who was a founder member of Biddenham Cricket Club in the 1980s, was placed in a corner of the field in May

The bench disappeared recently, presumably stolen. This is a sad outcome indeed.

BIDDENHAM CRICKET CLUB - HOME FIXTURES JULY 2022

Date	Day	Start Time	Biddenham Team	Opposition
03-Jul-22	Sunday	13:00	Sunday League XI	Great Brickhill CC - Sunday 1st XI
05-Jul-22	Tuesday	18:00	Under 13 B	Harrold CC - Under 13 B
07-Jul-22	Thursday	18:00	Under 15	Potton Town CC - Under 15
10-Jul-22	Sunday	10:00	Under 9	Olney Town CC - Under 9 B
10-Jul-22	Sunday	13:30	Sunday Friendly XI	Shenley Church End CC - Sunday 1st XI
12-Jul-22	Tuesday	18:00	Under 13	Harrold CC - Under 13
17-Jul-22	Sunday	13:00	Sunday League XI	Ickwell CC - Sunday 1st XI
19-Jul-22	Tuesday	18:00	Under 13 B	Pavenham & Felmersham CC - Under 13
21-Jul-22	Thursday	18:00	Under 15	Pavenham & Felmersham CC - Under 15
24-Jul-22	Sunday	13:30	Sunday Friendly XI	Olney Town CC - Sunday Casuals
26-Jul-22	Tuesday	18:00	Under 13	Elstow CC - Under 13



Evening services at St James's

If, like me, you are a lover of the traditional but at the same time open to newness and the future, you will enjoy finding time to sit back from a busy life and nurture your mind with good music, with time for prayer and reflection at one of our evening services at St James's Church

We are very lucky still to have an evening service at 6.00pm on the second Sunday of each month and we even have a full choral service with choir on the fifth Sunday (when there is one - as there is in July).

Evening services go back a long way in the Anglican tradition but have largely fallen out of favour in recent years. The congregation is never very large but you are free to quietly reflect should you so wish in the peace of our beautiful church.

Don't worry if you have never been before as its all set out in the service book.

See you at the next service on Sunday 10th July.

Chris Jones

R J GASCOYNE THE PLUMBING, HEATING AND GAS COMPANY

Boiler changes, system upgrades, bathrooms, fault finding, servicing, maintenance, gas safety & landlord certificates, repairs, all heating, plumbing, drainage and gas work undertaken.

All from a friendly, reliable, trustworthy and professional engineer.

Contact Ryan on
TEL: 07980 209587
or EMAIL



Did you know?

Since our first Did You Know? with the help of Jean Gambold we have been looking back through the archives of the Loop (formerly the Biddenham Bulletin, formerly Parish Magazine) and found out a little more about the initial purchase of the Church Barn in 1978.

The purchase cost was £5,000 spread over 3 years, with the costs of conversion to a barn estimated between £10,000 and £12,000 with 50% of that total being labour. However, the PCC were able to take advantage of the then government's job creation scheme known as the Youth Opportunities Programme (designed to hide the high level of unemployment among young people at the time) and so the labour was free, reducing the cost of conversion to a lot more manageable £5,000-£6,000, although still a lot to raise at the end of the 1970's! (The equivalent in 2021 would be £24,600-£29,520).

If you would like to hire the Church Barn or find out more about the facilities it offers, please contact us at stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com

Jane and Rebecca

St James's Church Barn

Church End,
Biddenham, MK40 4AS



Available for parties, small events and classes

Capacity for up to 50 people

Comprises a main hall, kitchen, two toilets,
ramp access, baby changing & disabled facilities



Contact us for further details
(email preferred contact method)

Email: stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com

Tel: Jane – 07831 172320 OR Rebecca – 07769 944727



Return of the Biddenham Show
Sunday, 11th September - 12 noon to 4pm
St James' VA Primary School & Biddenham Village Hall
biddenhamshow.org

We're looking forward to the return of the Biddenham Show in September. The programme, which includes details of all competition classes and entry forms, will be available on the Show web site (see above) in July. Hard copies will also be available at Café B and the First Friday Lunch during July and August.

Lots to see and do

- Children's Fancy Dress-the theme is My Favourite Costume
- Fun Dog Show
- Circus Skills
- Human Fruit Machine
- Bottle Stall
- Bouncy Castle
- Children's Entertainment
- Raffle
- Food & Drink
- Beer, Cider & Pimms tent
- Sunflower competition

Bottle stall appeal

The bottle stall will be back by popular demand – but we need bottles! If you can donate one or more (within their best before date) please contact: Ashley Knight on 07748 305050 during the week commencing 4th September.

Fun Dog Show and Agility Course

Dogs are once again welcome at this year's show – in fact, they are positively encouraged.

New for 2022 will be the Fun Dog Agility Course for you and your beloved pet to showcase your skills together (see website).

This year's Dog Show classes include:

- Best Female Dog
- Best Male Dog
- Cutest Puppy (under 1 year)
- Golden Oldie (over 7 years)
- Best Rescue Dog
- Dog & Owner Lookalike
- Dog with the smiliest face
- Dog with the waggiest tail
- Best in Show

As well as rosettes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, the overall winner will be awarded a Pet Portrait Experience.

Request for cakes and help

Every year teas and cakes in the village hall make a significant contribution to the funds available for local groups and societies. If you can help either as a volunteer on the day or by baking scones, cakes, or biscuits (including vegan/gluten free) then please contact: sradicenewton@gmail.com.

Baking & cooking competitions

There will be various baking and cooking competitions to enter. For full details, please refer to the Show web site. This year the specified cake is an orange drizzle, and we include the recipe on the next page.

Book & DVD donations

If you have books and DVDs in good condition that you no longer need, please donate them to the Show. Drop off dates at the Village Hall:

Café B: 19th Jul & 16th Aug

1st Friday Lunch: 1st Jul, 5th Aug & 2nd Sept

Important notice for craft & gardening competition entrants

- Entry forms are available on the show web site or from Liz at lizhurford@btinternet.com
- Entries to be submitted by **8 September** to ensure sufficient space is allocated for exhibits.
- Class entries must be brought to the Show on Sunday 11th September between 8.15 and 9.45am. Garden and kitchen entries to the Garden marquee on the school field. Photography, arts & crafts to the Village Hall.
- Judging starts at 10am.

Thanks to our sponsors

We are very grateful that Taylor Brightwell and Circle Health Group (formerly BMI) will once again be sponsoring this year's show.

All events are vulnerable to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Please check the Show web site for details.

Mary Berry's orange drizzle cake

(a cross between a drizzle cake and a Victoria sandwich)

Cooking time - 25 minutes, plus cooling

Serves 8

Ingredients

For the sponge

- 4 eggs
- 225g (8oz) caster sugar
- 225g (8oz) self-raising flour
- 225g (8oz) baking spread, plus extra for greasing
- 1 tsp baking powder
- Finely grated zest of 1 orange

For the orange drizzle icing

- Juice of ½ orange
- 100g (4oz) caster sugar
- Grated zest of ½ orange (grated using a zester), to decorate

For the buttercream icing

- 100g (4oz) unsalted butter, softened
- Finely grated zest of ½ orange
- 2 tbsp orange juice
- 150g (5oz) icing sugar, sifted

Method

1. You will need two 20cm (8in) round, loose-bottomed sandwich tins. Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/Gas 4, then grease the tins with baking spread and line each of the bases with a disc of baking paper.
2. To make the orange drizzle icing, mix the orange juice and sugar together in a bowl.
3. To make the sponges, place all the ingredients for the sponge in a bowl and whisk together with an electric hand whisk until combined. Divide the mixture evenly between the prepared tins and level the tops.
4. Bake in the oven for about 25 minutes until golden brown and springy to the touch. After 5 minutes turn out of the tins, remove the baking paper and transfer to a wire rack. Immediately pour the drizzle icing on top of one sponge (see tip), all the way to the edge. Sprinkle with the orange zest (see tip) and set aside to cool down completely.
5. To make the buttercream filling, place the butter in a bowl with the orange zest and juice. Adding the icing sugar, a little at a time, whisk with an electric hand whisk until smooth.
6. Sit the plain, non-iced sponge on a plate and spread over the buttercream, right to the edges. Place the drizzle-iced sponge on top to sandwich the cakes together.

Mary Berry's tips

Prepare ahead - the orange drizzle cake can be assembled up to 8 hours ahead.

Freezing - the sponges freeze well – remember to wrap in cling film then tin foil.

Icing and decorating

It is important to pour the drizzle icing on top of the warm cake, so the juices run into the sponge, keeping it moist. Stand the cake over a baking sheet to catch the drips or pour the syrup over the sponge while it is still in the tin, so none is lost.

It's also important to sprinkle the orange zest over the top of the sponge immediately after the drizzle icing, or the zest will dry out as the cake stands. Alternatively, decorate with zest just before serving.

This recipe is extracted from [Mary Berry Everyday](#)



After two cancellations due to Covid, the Pond Summer Tea and AGM made a very welcome return on Sunday 12th June at the Church Barn with more than 50 people enjoying tea, scones and gingerbread men. There was also an opportunity to have a look at the life in our pond under the microscope.

The refreshments were very kindly provided by the Committee and although we make no charge, people were very generous with their donations, which totalled £177 on the day. These are a great boost to our Pond funds, all of which will be used for our maintenance and conservation work.



Chris Jones gave the Chairman's review and thanked all the volunteers who generously give up so much of their time, so that the pond remains a special place at the heart of our community.

Other activity down at the pond has included the creation of a dead hedge by Biddenham Conservation Volunteers on the far western end of the site, continuing from the existing stone wall.



The dead hedge

A dead hedge is made by driving straight branches into the ground and then weaving and laying other material from pruning and coppicing, between the posts. All the material came from the pond site and the hedge will act as a wildlife friendly barrier between the pond and the new housing development, it will also link up with other hedges or tree lines and provide a wildlife corridor from the pond to Cowslip Meadow. The Friends of Biddenham Village Pond are not responsible for the ditch behind the stone wall and dead hedge, but we hope that it will remain as part of the wetland area of the pond.

We have previously reported that a decision had been made to move the metal bin from the site because it was not considered safe for our volunteers to be handling the rubbish. This has now been done and we have seen a slight increase in rubbish at the site. We hope that this is an initial blip, and that people will do the right thing and take their rubbish, including cigarette butts away with them. We will also be asking the Manor hospital to install their own bin near their gate that accesses the pond, for their staff to use. We will be monitoring what happens.



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 Church along the ancient coffin path that takes you across the fields and back to the village.

The Pond Team

Contact Details

Chris Jones
Cathy Eckett-Brown
Jane Knight
Jonathan Field
Kris Burchill
Oliver Esslemont

chrishj49@gmail.com
ceckett@gmail.com
jane@80kltd.co.uk
jfield21st@mail.com
kristenhopebee@gmail.com
oliveresslemont@hotmail.com

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

A L & G ABBOTT

Funeral Directors

~ Established 1832 ~



WITH YOU WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

A small and independently owned funeral directors who are proud to have served the local community for over 180 years and will continue to do so with the highest standards of care, respect and dignity. We now offer a Bereavement Listening service to our families.

A L & G Abbott is run with family values at the very heart of the business.

- 24 Hour Personal Service
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Funeral Plans
- Home Arrangements



T: 01234 843222

150 Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire, MK42 8BH
www.abbott-funerals.co.uk support@abbott-funerals.co.uk

The Missing Link

Meandering one day six years ago around the lovely village in which we are lucky enough to live, I wondered if there were other Biddenhams elsewhere in the world and, if so, if there was an historical connection to our village. The long search for answers began, culminating in a presentation to the Biddenham History Society in April on which Kathy Fricker reported last month.

Scouring the world, I found another Biddenham. It's in Australia, neither village nor town but a large farm, the Biddenham station, on the Biddenham Road, near Augathella, in Queensland. Exploring further, with hopes raised and dashed along the way, finally a connection between the two Biddenhams was uncovered, revealing too for the current owners, the Newell family, what they had wondered: how their station got its name. And the missing link I discovered actually was a Missing link!

The pioneer who in 1863 found and claimed the land and named his station Biddenham was one Henry Missing, the seventh and last child of the Reverend John Missing. Henry was born a few months after his father's appointment in 1838 as Curate of our Biddenham. Reverend John served as Curate until his untimely death aged 46 in 1840, and the 2012 history book of the village recounts: 'True to his name, he is not to be found in the church records.'

Much has now been discovered about Reverend John's life before and after his arrival in Biddenham, his last but not his first parish. And much too about Henry's life in Australia, where he sailed in 1858 and where he married and raised a family: that's another story.

Memorials in our church and churchyard commemorate Reverend John and two of his children, a plaque inside for daughter Margaret Emily who had died earlier in 1840, and an obelisk outside for both John and his son John McBride, who died in 1856.

Reverend John was the second son of Hannah and Richard William Missing, a gentleman, of Bishops Sutton, Hampshire; both his father and his grandfather, another John, were barristers and Recorder of Romsey. Our John studied at Magdalen Hall (now Hertford College), Oxford, matriculating in 1822, aged 28, and obtaining his BA in 1826 and his MA in 1829.

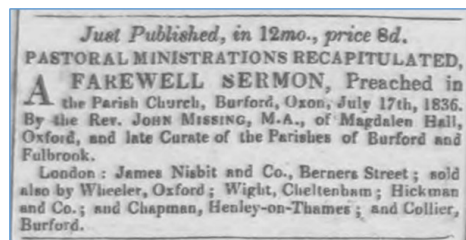
John had married Sarah Bennet in Clerkenwell in 1824, and in 1826 was ordained a Deacon by the Bishop of Gloucester, was licensed as Assistant Curate and then appointed Curate, Cheltenham, his patron Reverend Francis Close, a noted Evangelical remembered for his educational initiatives in Cheltenham, particularly its training college for schoolteachers. In 1827 John was ordained a Priest, and in 1828 was licensed as Curate of Burford and Fulbrook, in Oxfordshire.

John did not shy away from publicity and controversy, he was a strong and active supporter of the Church Missionary Society, being Secretary of the Bedford and Bedfordshire Church Missionary Association, and was a prolific preacher.

The 'Burford: By the Way' column in February 1908 in The Witney Gazette revealed more about John and his work:

'I had written so far, and really had not another word to say this week. Just at this very time, a respected friend, a Burford man, but a resident in Witney, placed in my hands a little book, which filled me with extreme delight, because it enlightened me in some respects with regard to this town of Burford in the "roaring forties" as they are called. The little volume contains the farewell sermon of the Rev. John Missing, at one time curate-in-charge of the Parishes of Burford and Fulbrook.'

'I do not know anyone living, except Mr Jonathan Banbury, who can remember Mr Missing, but a year or so ago there were several who could do so, and I have many times heard them mention his name with the highest honour and respect.



From the Berkshire Chronicle and Bucks and Windsor Herald, 27th August 1836

(This newspaper image and the extract from The Watford Gazette copyright The British Library.

All rights reserved. With thanks to The British Newspaper Archive (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

never residing in the parish. The good work which Mr. Dallas initiated appears to have been carried on by his successor, and no one who reads this farewell sermon ... will doubt that there was much religious life within the place, even at a period when the Church of England was thought to be asleep.

Mr Missing speaks of the opposition to his selection as curate-in-charge on account of his particular religious views. What were these? I am not certain but when I state that Mr Missing was the real Founder of the religious body known as "The Brethren" today, they will be somewhat apparent. As everyone knows, this particular Society, started as it was in such a way has always been, and is now remarkable for its great vigour.'

The Brethren movement the columnist mentions began in Dublin in the late 1820s with a group of men who felt that the established Church had become too involved with the secular state and had abandoned many of the basic truths of Christianity. The first Brethren assembly in England was established in Plymouth in 1831.

The columnist refers to John's frequent Communicants' Classes, numbers being not less than 90; his cottage meetings; early meetings on Sundays; his district visitors each caring for one of nine areas of the town; the Sunday school of no less than 200 children and 17 teachers; and an infant school which children from a year and a half to seven years attended.

'Truly Mr Missing believed in planting the seed early. ... It is apparent too from the church books that there were those in the parish who did not possess his zeal and with whom he had come into conflict. The good man in his sermon implores forgiveness from these, and hopes for better things from them in the future.'

John was Biddenham's curate when Reverend Thomas Shuttleworth Grimshawe was Vicar. Both were evangelical Anglicans, emphasising biblical faith, personal conversion, piety, and generally the Protestant rather than the Catholic heritage of the Anglican Church.

Despite all John's endeavours less than three years after his death his family found themselves in a 'state of helpless destitution'. What happened after is also another story.

Footnote:

Towards the end of my research I discovered a second Biddenham! It too is in Australia, is neither town nor village, nor farm, but does also have an historical connection to our Biddenham. All will be revealed at the Biddenham History Society's meeting in September within a presentation on 'Missing Links: tales of disaster, murder, plague, fire, and ... poetry'.

Peter Applewhite

{With thanks to the Biddenham Historical Trust 2012 for the extract from the 2012 village history book}

Come and Join Us



FREE COFFEE, CAKE AND CHAT

In the Church Barn

On

Friday 8th July 2022

10:30-12:00 noon

Transport provided: Laurie 364251

Peter's Picturehouse

Our film in June was Belfast and we are pleased that our audience appreciated the film so much. We are looking forward now to our showing of Spencer (12A) on Tuesday 5th July. The film was released in November 2021 and in it, Kristen Stewart portrays Princess Diana as she stays at Sandringham over Christmas where peace is ordained, a performance that gained her three nominations for best actress. Diana is close to having a break down as her marriage is floundering amongst rumours of affairs and divorce.

Moving on to the first Tuesday in August, Tues 2nd August we are showing the film Official Secrets (15), starring Ralph Fiennes, Keira Knightley and Matt Smith. The film was released in the UK in October 2019 and reveals the untold true and gripping story behind courageous journalist, Katharine Gun who put her life and career on the line to showcase the lies of the government and change modern history forever.

As always, doors of Biddenham Village Hall open at 7.00pm for the film showing to start at 7.30pm and tickets are available on the door at £5. Coffee, tea, wine, beer, soft drinks and ice creams are available to buy before the film and in the interval, so do come along to catch these great films on our big screen in the hall.

We look forward to welcoming you on the first Tuesday of each month. Make a note in your diaries of our upcoming films now so that you don't miss them! if you would like a reminder of the films or more information, do send an email to: peterspicturehouse@gmail.com

Tues 5th July Spencer (12A)

Tues 2nd August Official Secrets (15)

Tues 6th September Phantom of the Open (12A)

Rose Houghton



Peter's Picturehouse In July

Date: Tuesday 5th July 2022

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

Location: Biddenham Village Hall



Tickets available
on the door,
price: £5

Certificate: 12A

To join our mailing list, or for further information, send an email to
peterspicturehouse@gmail.com

Coming soon...

Tues 2nd August

Tues 6th September

Official Secrets (15)

Phantom of the Open (12A)



Peter's Picturehouse In August

Date: Tuesday 2nd August 2022

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

Location: Biddenham Village Hall



Tickets available
on the door,
price: £5

Certificate: 15

To join our mailing list, or for further information, send an email to
peterspicturehouse@gmail.com

Coming soon...

Tues 6th September

Phantom of the Open (12A)

Biddenham Gardeners Association

The A-Z of foolproof gardening

On the 21st June we were pleased to be joined by Chris Day. Chris is the Publicity Manager at Buckingham Nurseries and Garden Centre. He has worked in a variety of horticultural environments and has also spent many years involved with gardening journalism.

Chris's enthusiasm for all things horticultural shone through during his talk which was illustrated by the plants which he had brought with him and which were for sale at the end of his presentation. This was an alphabetical wander through horticulture with an emphasis on garden plants and Chris was keen to help us make the most of our outside spaces.

Starting with A for Allergens - the most common being pollen, Chris highlighted the plants which produced more limited amounts of pollen and were therefore better for hay fever sufferers, these included geraniums, busy lizzies, vincas, azaleas and rhododendrons. B for Bees and Butterflies came next with details of how to hard prune buddleias in the Spring to maximise the length of the racines. There was much discussion about C for Compost. The target date for all peat free compost is now 2025. Members agreed that the peat free composts dried out more quickly. Chris had a good tip - he uses a very small amount of washing up liquid in his watering can, this provides a good wetting agent.

Dual purpose plants came next and Chris gave lists of plants which provided coloured foliage as well as flowers. Sarcococca - the sweet box was particularly mentioned for its glossy dark green foliage and very fragrant small white flowers. E gave us Easy care plants and Edible flowers. F for Fighting growth and Chris advised cutting out dead, diseased and damaged growth in trees and shrubs in the first instance - followed by shaping and pruning directly after the plant has finished flowering and then feeding. Chris continued with plants for Ground cover and he suggested putting bark chips around plants rather than slate or grit as these become too hot in the summer and damage or even kill the plants.

Lots of useful information was provided when we reached H for House plants which are good for health and well being and help to remove impurities from our indoor spaces. Very good tips on growing phalaenopsis or moth orchids included making sure that their roots have access to light and mist spray the backs of their leaves with an orchid feed. And so it went on through Innovation, Japanese maples, Kitchen gardening, Lasagna planting - putting into the bottom of the pot those bulbs that flower last - so one might layer, alliums then tulips, narcissus, crocus and finishing with miniature iris - for a display lasting many months. On and on through the alphabet - much discussion when we came to S for Slugs and Snails and W for weed control. Until we reached Z - z z z z - as Chris said if we had followed all this gardening advice we would all need a good rest. Chris was so full of brilliant ideas, tips and really useful gardening advice and it was a pleasure to listen to someone who was so knowledgeable and presented in such an engaging way.

Please join us next month on Tuesday 19th July for a brief AGM, followed by a talk by Corinne Price who is a member of the Bedfordshire Gardens Trust, followed by cheese and wine. The meeting will be open to all members, new members and visitors we look forward to seeing you then.

Linda Truscott

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



Ready to reduce your retirement living costs?

Make the most of the best years of your life at a beautiful Elderswell property, and we'll give you up to **£50,000*** towards your living costs in your new home.
Most of our residents wish they'd moved with us sooner!

- We buy your property at 100% of its independent valuation
- Or pay estate agency costs and help you sell your property
 - Pay your panel solicitors fees
 - Pay your removal costs
- Pay for a downsizing service and more!

So visit us now, make your choice and reserve today.
Don't miss this £50,000 opportunity.

One and two bedroom apartments from £330,000.
Call us to arrange a visit.



Call us today on 01234 817 753
or visit www.elderswell.co.uk

*Terms and conditions apply. This offer is on selected units and for a limited time only.



OVALL LAW

Your local legal advisory firm

A new law firm run by Paul Hillier, a very experienced and responsive solicitor now working from his home office in Biddenham, offering a personal service for individuals and businesses on *any* legal issues.

Call 01234 860856
or email: info@ovalllaw.co.uk

Authorised and Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No. 613473

www.ovalllaw.co.uk

First Friday Lunch



Soup, sandwich or baked potato,
pudding and a drink,
on the first Friday of every month
in Biddenham Village Hall
from 12.15pm
£8.00

Draw for 2 free lunch tickets every month
Book swap

Numbers limited - booking essential:

email firstfridaylunch@outlook.com
or text/leave a message on **07412 559584**

1st July, 5th August, 2nd September

No Fear Duplicate Bridge

Biddenham Village Hall Fridays at 2.30pm (intermediate),
Sundays at 6.00pm.

Contact Bernard Henry 07866 456759 or
bahenry0309@gmail.com

100 CLUB May draw

The winners were:

1st	David Watson	153
2nd	Alexander Willmott	122
3rd	Azhar Abbas	12

Drawn by Kathy Fricker



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	Peter Leverkus	Tel: 353662
Treasurer	Paul Fricker	Tel: 342843

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

The Church Barn is available for parties, small events and classes, with a capacity for up to 50 people. Comprising a main hall, full kitchen use, two toilets, ramp access, baby changing and disabled facilities. To check availability contact our Booking Officers via email on stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com (preferred contact) or

Jane 07831 172320

Rebecca 07769 944727

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

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	10.00-11.30am	Pavilion
Gentle Yoga	2.00-3.00pm	Pavilion
Storm Martial Arts	7.00-8.00pm	Pavilion
Guides	7.15pm Termttime	Village Hall
Tuesday		
Over 50s fitness	10.00-11.00am	Pavilion
Caf� B	10.15am-12noon (3 rd in month)	Village Hall
Calm Baby Massage	10.30am	Church Barn
Peter's Picturehouse	7.00 for 7.30pm (1 st in month)	Village Hall
HIT Fitness	7.00-7.30pm	Pavilion
Biddenham Gardeners Association	7.30pm (3 rd in month)	Village Hall
Country Dancing	8.00pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Village Hall
Zumba	8.00-9.00pm	Pavilion
Wednesday		
Coffee morning for Ukrainian Community	9.00am	Church Barn
Kensington Ballet	10.00-11.00am	Pavilion
Baby College	10.00am, 11.00am & noon Termttime	Village Hall
Handbell Ringer Practice	2.30pm	Church Barn
Table Tennis	2.00-4.00pm	Pavilion
HIT Fitness	6.30-7.30pm	Pavilion
Adult Yoga	7.00-8.00pm	Village Hall
Thursday		
Under 5's	9.30-11.30am (Termttime)	Village Hall
Line dancing	9.30-11.30am	Pavilion
Oasis	9.30am (1 st & 3 rd in month)	Church Barn
Mum & Baby Movers	1.00pm	Village Hall
U3A Handbell Ringer Practice	2.00pm	Church Barn
Fetch Puppy Club	7.30-8.30pm	Pavilion
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	2.15-4.15pm	Pavilion
No Fear Bridge (intermediates)	2.30pm	Village Hall
Choir Practice	7.00pm	Church Barn
Storm Martial Arts	7.00-8.00pm	Pavilion
Saturday		
Pregnancy Yoga	9.15am	Village Hall
Oakley Football	9.00am-12.30pm	Pavilion Field
Socotots	9.45-11.15am	Pavilion
Lucy Hunt School of Dance	2.00-3.30pm	Pavilion
Sunday		
St James's Explorers	10.00am	Church Barn
No Fear Bridge	6.00-9.00pm	Village Hall
Revive	7.00pm (3 rd in month)	Church Barn

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

July

Fri 1 Jul	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p22
Fri 1 Jul	Three Tuns reopens
Sat 2 Jul	Great Denham Summer Festival, Community Hall, 2.00-6.00pm, see p4
Sun 3 Jul	All Age Worship at All Saints, 10.00am All Age Worship at St James's, 10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints, 11.15am
Mon 4 Jul	Flower & tree survey, Cowslip Meadow, 10.00am, see p4
Mon 4 Jul	Biddenham History Society, Church Barn, 2.30pm, see p5
Mon 4 Jul	Great Denham Parish Council, Community Hall, 7.30pm, see p4
Tue 5 Jul	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p20
Fri 8 Jul	Coffee morning, Church Barn, 10.30-12noon, see p20
Sun 10 Jul	Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am Evening Prayer at St James's, 6.00pm
Tue 12 Jul	Biddenham Parish Council, Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p6
Sun 17 Jul	Holy Communion at All Saints, 10.00am Morning Worship at St James's, 10.00am Revive: Coffee/Bible/Fellowship, Church Barn, 7.00pm
Tue 19 Jul	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am, see p11
Tue 19 Jul	Biddenham Gardeners Association, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.30pm, see p21
Sat/Sun 23/24 Jul	Bedford River Festival, see p5
Sun 24 Jul	Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am Explorers, Church Barn, 10.00am
Fri 29 July	Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am, see p22
Sun 31 Jul	Service of Wholeness & Healing at St James's, 10.00am Choral Evensong at St James's, 6.00pm

August

Tue 2 Aug	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p20
Wed 3 Aug	Flower survey, Cowslip Meadow, 10.00am, see p4
Fri 5 Aug	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p22
Sun 7 Aug	All Age Worship at All Saints, 10.00am All Age Worship at St James's, 10.00am Holy Communion at All Saints, 11.15am
Sun 14 Aug	Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am Evening Prayer at St James's, 6.00pm
Mon 15 Aug	Flower survey, Cowslip Meadow, 10.00am, see p4
Tue 16 Aug	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am, see p11
Sun 21 Aug	Holy Communion at All Saints, 10.00am Morning Worship at St James's, 10.00am Revive: Coffee/Bible/Fellowship, Church Barn, 7.00pm
Fri 26 Aug	Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am, see p22
Sun 28 Aug	Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am Explorers, Church Barn, 10.00am

September

Fri 2 Sep	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p22
Sat 3 Sep	Bulky waste collection, Biddenham, see p1
Mon 5 Sep	Flower survey, Cowslip Meadow, 10.00am, see p4
Tue 6 Sep	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p20
Sat 10 Sep	Bulky waste collection, Great Denham, see p1
Sun 11 Sep	Biddenham Show, see pp16-17

Zoom Church Services every Monday & Wednesday

Every Monday at 9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom.
Every Wednesday at 6.00pm Virtch, online Zoom service.
To access Zoom church services enter meeting ID 998 074 6039.

For regular events at the Church Barn, Pavilion and Biddenham Village Hall see page 23

Biddenham Cricket Club fixtures are on page 14

The Loop

Editor	Jean Gambold	loopeditor@gmail.com	Tel 349849
Reporter & Proof Reader	Janet Field	loopreporter@gmail.com	
Advertising	Clare Sugars	loopadverts@gmail.com	Tel 637281
Subscriptions & distribution	Rosemary & Richard Harris	loopsubs@gmail.com	Tel 210434
Church liaison	Laurie Hurn		

All September 2022 articles, preferably by e-mail in Word format, to loopeditor@gmail.com or to 22 Day's Lane and adverts to loopadverts@gmail.com by Wednesday 17th August 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.