

The Loop

March
2022

£1.00

Storm Eunice strikes the parish

The high winds on Friday and Saturday 18th and 19th February certainly made an impact in Biddenham. First up was a temporary blockage of Bromham Road near the top of Day's Lane when a conifer forming part of the hedge to Queens Close came down on the road. It was quickly cleared by Highways staff. Later, a much larger tree came down near Bromham Bridge causing significant disruption.

In the centre of Biddenham a tree blocked access to one of the houses on Main Road and there was significant domestic damage to trees and fences with at least one trampoline ending up in next door's apple tree.



The neatly tidied remnants of the conifer on Bromham Road



The uprooted tree on Main Road, near the Three Tuns

BIDDENHAM GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

**We will be returning to the Village Hall on
Tuesday 15th March**

7.30pm

Ferns: 'Fifty Shades of Green'

Colin Ward

**We look forward to seeing
Members, New Members and Visitors**

For contact details see page 13

**'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

Imposition of Ashes

2
March

ASH WEDNESDAY

Join us to mark the start of
Lent for a short service during
which those who wish to can
receive a mark of ashes on
the forehead as a sign of
penitence and mortality.

Everyone Welcome
No booking required

All Saints Church

Kempston
6.00pm

St James's Church

Biddenham
7.30pm

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

Letter from the Vicar

Dear All

Seven or eight years ago, when I was the parish priest in Lincolnshire, I remember a friend telling me to take a rest.

There were seven churches under my care, and two very good Church of England primary schools, my mum, three hours away, on the Wirral, had begun her battle with Alzheimer's disease (a battle that she is still fighting), and I had an elderly father who was in resistant denial. 'You need a break,' my friend told me, and then he said, 'the graveyards are full of indispensable people'.

The statement is true, the graveyards around both of my churchyards in Biddenham and Kempston are indeed full of indispensable people, and a fair number of them are buried in the walls and beneath the floors of these churches.

Four or five weeks ago I was invited to take a group of school children from Kempston Rural school round my church yard in Kempston. The children were not interested in the names of these people who were buried there, but rather the stones. Some of the grave stones date back to the 16th century, and the children were observing the erosion of these ancient stones. Layer upon layer has been chipped away and, for most, all that remains are patches of fungus.

These indispensable people have faded into oblivion together with their influential wealth. I guess we must face it that greatness, even in the church, has unfortunately, so often been defined by wealth, and not by the worth that God places on people. It is ironic that these monuments in our churchyard are there for the very purpose of reminding us of the futility of earthly wealth.

It was the philosopher Nietzsche who in 1882 wrote the words 'God is dead, God remains dead, and we have killed him'. Many would echo this view, and it has also become the resounding sermon of celebrity atheists who preach this gospel of godlessness from the pulpit of stage or TV screen. I would celebrate the death of a religion which justifies discrimination and the abuse of religious power, as well as one that does not engage with the question of God in the face of human suffering, but let me be clear, that is not the God that I worship.

In St James's church we celebrate a God whose response to human beings, on every level, is love and acceptance. His priority is not to etch the names of the rich and powerful on so called everlasting monuments, but rather to embrace the poor, the broken, the alienated and the outcast, and to love and save the utterly unlovable.

Indeed, we believe that God himself underwent a death of sorts, something which is given an explanation, with vivid beauty in 'The Crucified God' (Juergen Moltmann 1974). God incarnate was indeed murdered by humanity but it happened both for the purpose of our redemption and in solidarity with us in our suffering. This is the core belief of our church and we celebrate in Church every time we worship that as he died for us so now he lives for us.

As we approach Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, you will be able to join a lovely group of people who celebrate a God who came to love us in Jesus Christ. He is a God who still breathes in us the power of his Spirit, and among the stones outside you will not find a single gravestone dedicated to him, because he is very much alive in the life and worship of his church. Ultimately, he lives and loves for you.

God bless.

Eric



Brownies win best junior Christmas tree 2021

13th Bedford Brownies won the trophy for the best junior tree at Bedford's Christmas Tree Festival 2021. The trophy was presented by Nick Kier of Lane & Holmes (sponsors).



Young Georgie masterminded the Panto theme while isolating with Covid. She encouraged fellow brownies to help her with the colourful craftwork while Joanne, Brown Owl ensured that the tree was fully decorated at St Paul's church.

Margaret Oakley, Festival Chairman and her committee are celebrating another successful year. Despite Covid restrictions, the income from entries, sale of trees, festival concert, fizz reception, raffle and sponsorship is £13,400 to be shared equally between St Paul's church and the Bedford Hospital Charity & Friends.

Income from the Festival will go towards the Hospital's Paediatric A & E Appeal while, for the church, the income will help fund its immense running costs including heating and lighting.

Margaret Oakley said "The footfall of approximately 5,000 and the annual sponsorship by Jayne Beard Associates confirm that the Festival is a significant Bedford Community Event."

Get ready for 'Musicals', the theme for the 2022 Festival.

Decorators can book their trees from September. Further details from Margaret Oakley on mboakley@hotmail.co.uk.

Ann Collett-White

Redgates path surface remedied

As walkers between Biddenham and Queens Park and Great Denham will have noted, the surface of the path from Redgates on Main Road has been covered with a substantial layer of bark chippings giving significant relief from the mud.



Beautiful show properties are now open!
Call 01234 817 753 to book a private tour

It's my time

Are you ready to rethink retirement and embrace the best years of your life?

Our retirement village is ready for you.

Retired Inspired

Make your move to your dream home!
Apartments from £330,000*
Get in touch today.

Elderswell
Inspired in retirement

Ready for your *best* years?

01234 817 753 | elderswell.co.uk

*Prices as at January 2022. Subject to change

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

REVIVE

Coffee
Bible
Fellowship

St James's Church Barn
7.00pm
Third Sunday of the Month
Everyone Welcome



OVALLAW
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@ovallaw.co.uk

Authorised and Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No. 613473

www.ovallaw.co.uk

Conservation Matters

The Biddenham Conservation Volunteers (BCV) are up and running. We hope the group will flourish and become self-sustaining. We have been working in Cowslip Meadow, the new churchyard and at the village pond. Other activities are planned and we hope to continue towards the summer. Please add any suggestions for places where you think nature can be given a hand and habitat diversity given an uplift.

Contact gillycowan@btinternet.com if you would like more information.

Chris Jones



Coppice stools at Biddenham Pond



Jonathan Field after coppicing hazel trees in Cowslip Meadow.

St James's Church Explorers

All you children out there! You are a big part of our church family and contribute so much to our services. We know that you like to go out of the service for a bit of time because we have asked some of you. We will be re-starting an 'Explorers' club on the 3rd Sunday of every month during the morning church service. All school age children are welcome. If you are more a young person than a child, well, we still want you to come and help us shape up our ideas a bit.

Bedford National Trust Association

The next meeting will start promptly at 2.15pm on Tuesday 15th March.

The speaker is James Higgs. '35 Years as a T.V.Quizzer'.

James has been on many different quiz shows, including 'Tell the Truth', 'No Win - No Fee', '15 to One', 'The Weakest Link', and 'Eggheads'.

'James will bring a tear to your eye and a lump to your throat'. And he will certainly make us laugh.'

The meeting will take place in the Addison Centre, Kempston, MK42 8PN. There will be a small admission fee. Everyone welcome. No need to book. Plenty of parking space.

For further information ring Garry Telling on 01480 819625.

This month in the garden

Well, here we are in March and how wonderful to see the spring bulbs bursting through the soil and the colours appearing in the various shrubs. The garden visiting year has begun - hurrah! Time to get out and about and enjoy the daffodils that brighten up the Spring. Ickworth House, near Bury St Edmunds, has swathes of heritage daffodils that are lovely in late March/early April. At this time of the year one can also see all the new lambs so it is a good place to visit.

I like to have flowers in the house all the year round and try to grow as many of my own flowers as I can. Because my garden is not large enough to have a cutting garden, I have cutting pots. In the autumn I plant up large pots of daffodils. These I place at the back of the garden by the shed. These daffodils are now in bud and I can pick 3 or 5 or 7 on a regular basis for the house without vandalising those in the borders. I particularly like Bridal Crown, Avalanche, Cheerfulness and Geranium daffodils. All these varieties have good sturdy stems and lovely fragrance. They flower in succession so I have a supply of flowers for the house for many weeks. I feed after they have flowered and give them plenty of water, plus a top up of compost in the autumn and they have been producing flowers for the house for a number of years.

The Chaenomeles or flowering quince is providing a vibrant burst of coral in my back garden.

I am also particularly fond of Magnolia Stellata, the star magnolia - very suitable for small gardens its average size being about 2 x 2 metres. In my front garden camellias are now decked with their pink flowers. I have no idea of the variety - my father bought them for me from Woolworths in Bedford when he and my mother were staying with me many years ago.

I can't wait to see how my pots of tulips will turn out. Their shoots have been showing through now for three weeks or so. I always plant them up using the 'lasagne' method which I learnt from Sarah Raven's various videos and podcasts. In a large pot or tub place some drainage crocks and a few inches of compost then the first layer of tulip bulbs packed in closely, but not touching each other. Choose the tallest tulips for this layer. Then a few more inches of compost and another layer of bulbs, repeat so that there are three layers of bulbs and finish with a good thick layer of compost. This, of course, was executed last November and now magically the shoots have woven themselves up to the surface - how do they do this without bumping into the bulbs above them? I am finding that I have to water my pots of bulbs quite regularly as it has been so dry. Viola and pansy baskets can now be fed with a dilute solution of a high potash feed and do keep dead heading regularly to maintain a good supply of new buds.

This month is a good time to tidy the borders, forking over the soil, weeding and mulching. Perennials can be divided, as can snowdrops if they have become overcrowded. I feed my snowdrops with a dressing of blood, fish and bone or chicken pellets as their flowers are starting to fade. This helps to ensure that there is an abundance of flowers the following year. During March I will be planting lily bulbs in pots. I always grow Lilium Regale. Their scent is wonderful on a summer's evening and I can highly recommend them.

I have checked my dahlia tubers that were lifted in the autumn and overwintered in my plant house. They are mostly fine so now is a good time to place them in shallow pots of compost with a gentle watering regime. It is easy to take cuttings from the new shoots which will appear. It is important to keep them in a greenhouse at this time of the year of course. I grow the single varieties as these provide easier access for the pollinators. Roxy, a vibrant pink and Honka Fragile a paler pink are good doers and excellent in pots as well. Other plants in the greenhouse such as dormant fuchsias and half-hardy perennials like salvias can

be started into growth with a gentle watering. Begonias and gloxinia tubers will need the warmth of a windowsill. Place them concave side upwards on damp compost.

Vegetable patches can be prepared now with organic matter. Broad beans are amongst the first things that can be planted. Hardy varieties like Aquadulce Claudia can be sown in the Autumn and I noticed, when I was at Chippenham Park in February that their broad beans were several inches high. Broad beans grow quickly and they will be some of the first crops to harvest. Do provide them with support before they actually need it. Parsnip seed can also be planted soon as they need a long time to develop. Don't be tempted to use old seed - it has to be fresh for parsnips. Onion and shallot sets can be planted out now. Resist the temptation to push them directly into the soil, this leads to compaction and the roots, as they start to develop, push the bulbs out of the ground. Dig out a small hole with a trowel for each one and bury them just under the surface. If you leave the top showing the bulbs may be pulled out of the ground by blackbirds. Potatoes should be starting to chit but leave planting them out until the end of the month and then make sure that they are earthed up regularly as frosts may still catch us out.

When I was at Anglesey Abbey in February I was reminded of a trick that was given to me many years ago. The pyracantha which grew up the wall of our garage and which my husband had trained so meticulously suddenly succumbed to fire blight and died virtually overnight. We wanted to replace it with a climbing rose but I was worried about the condition of the soil and whether it might be contaminated. A gardening friend suggested that we tried 'the old wine box' technique - where you dig a hole large enough to accommodate a cardboard box. Place the empty box in the hole, fill the box with new compost and John Innes No 2 and plant the rose directly into this. For the first couple of years or so the rose will enjoy the new compost and by the time the box has disintegrated and the roots have spread out into the surrounding soil the rose will be well established. We planted 'Shropshire Lad' a soft peach-pink rose and it has thrived ever since. At Anglesey Abbey a whole new rose bed had been planted in this way in the rose garden, each new rose planted into its own cardboard box. I assume this was because old, possibly diseased roses had been removed from the original bed. Unfortunately, I couldn't find a gardener to ask if this was the case. We are getting towards the end of bare root planting for this year but it is worth a try if you are in a similar position. I have included a photograph of the roses/boxes at Anglesey Abbey on the BGA website.

It is time to prune roses now. Remove old dead or diseased wood completely, prune other stems just above an outward facing bud. The cut should slope downwards and away from the bud so that water does not collect on it. Aim for well-spaced stems that allow free air flow. With the exception of climbing and shrub roses prune all newly planted roses hard to encourage vigorous shoots and I always use Mycorrhizal fungi around the roots as they are planted as this has been shown to increase the plant's tolerance to different environmental stresses.

As I finish writing this in the middle of February I am just about to go into my plant house to sort out the auriculas. They have been without water since early November and they are now a mass of dead leaves but new leaves and some buds are showing through. I will be taking off the old dead leaves in the warmth of my kitchen and then giving them a dilute liquid seaweed food to give them a boost. Hopefully, in a few weeks they will be spectacular. However, I think some of them have keeled over completely. Hey ho - we win some and we lose some.

Happy gardening and happy garden visiting.

Linda Truscott

Biddenham Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 15th February 2022 at the Pavilion. Present at the meeting were Parish Councillors Graham Bates, Peter Chase, Karen Cotton, Irina Madan-Sau, the Clerk, David Brough and myself. Apologies were received from Harry Fowler, Chris Gee, Krzys Osuch and Francia Slade. Borough Councillors, Jon Gambold and Roger Rigby were also present.



Once again the subject of speeding was on the Agenda. The Parish Council had received some feedback from Bedford Borough's Highway's team following our own 20mph survey of residents. The Borough indicated installing a 20mph limit in the Deep Spinney estate would be 'technically' acceptable as the speeds in these roads were relatively low. The zone would have 20mph 'entrance' signs starting after the Gold Lane junction to advise drivers they were entering a 20mph zone and would require 20mph repeater signs at every 200 yds. In addition, each cul-de-sac would require a minimum of 2 repeater signs unless of course it was less than 200yards. These repeater signs would be attached, wherever possible, to the existing street lights to avoid the need to install additional sign posts. In respect of the other roads in the village, the only road where a 20mph limit could be installed without affecting the aesthetics of the village would be Darlow Drive. Again, this could be a standalone 20mph limit, with signing at the junction with Biddenham Turn. If anyone wanted to see what this would look like then a similar scheme has been installed off Brickhill Drive.

The Parish Council discussed the response from the Borough. Mindful of the responses of residents to our survey we agreed to ask the Borough to consider adding Deep Spinney for a 20mph zone onto their future work programme. The Borough was clear that there are **no funds available for this work at the moment**. Therefore, it won't be anytime soon that we will see them issue a consultation proposal on speed limit changes. But as the Borough has publicly stated 20mph zones are a priority feature of their local Transport Plan we may yet see some funds allocated.

On the subject of speeding, we were also updated via our Councillors that the Borough were assessing seven new sites for average speed cameras as part of their 2022/23 work programme. The location of the sites hasn't been disclosed yet. Whether they have included the Bromham Road or Biddenham Turn locations the Parish Council had requested is unknown. We will have to wait for the big reveal to see which schemes have been chosen.

On a much more tangible note, I was very pleased that the Parish Council agreed to purchase a hearing induction loop for the Pavilion. The issue had been raised earlier in the month by a user and it is great that we have the resources to be able to improve the building and help to

make it more inclusive.

The Parish Council also considered correspondence from St James' Primary School as part of the school's consultation on its desire to pursue the option of becoming an academy as part of the Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust. The Parish Council had no strong views as the delivery of education is not something covered by the remit of the Parish Council. While I believe the school is undertaking a comprehensive consultation, I flag it up here so that readers are aware of this proposed change.

Finally, I'd like to thank the Public Rights of Way team at the Borough who organised for a substantial covering of bark chippings to be laid on part of the public right of way opposite the junction of Main Road and Day's Lane. It certainly helps with the mud.

Date of the next meeting

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney and all are welcome.

Stewart Briggs
Chair

Biddenham Parish tree planting programme begins

As reported in the November 2021 edition of The Loop, Biddenham Parish Council has agreed to invest in planting forty trees throughout the village as part of the Trees for Streets Scheme.

The first four trees have been planted on the service road part of Bromham Road, opposite the old Golf Course. Four different species have been planted including an Alder and an English Walnut.

As part of the agreement with Bedford Borough Council, who supplied and planted them, the trees will be watered regularly for the first year giving them a better chance of survival.





NEW BOMBAY

01234 218 218

ORDER ONLINE AT

www.newbombay.co.uk

Biddenham History Society Jubilees

In June 2022, there will be Bank Holidays on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th June to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to mark her 70 years on the throne. I did not live in Biddenham at the time of the Silver Jubilee in 1977, but I do remember Biddenham at the time of the Golden Jubilee in 2002 and the Diamond Jubilee in 2012. We were fortunate in 2002 in having warm, sunny weather so the events that were planned could go ahead smoothly. We were not so lucky in 2012, but we managed to enjoy ourselves despite the rain!

I will write about the Golden Jubilee this month and hope it will revive some good memories and I will write about the Diamond Jubilee in next month's edition of The Loop.

A series of events were organized by the Jubilee Committee team, who worked hard from November 2001 to plan the weekend of events in June 2002. There were some informal street parties, notably the one on the Friday night on Day's Lane, instigated by Madeleine Fone, Bill and Yvonne Fowler and David and Fran Eyre. However, the main events took place at the weekend on Saturday 1st June and Sunday 2nd June and on the Monday and Tuesday.



The street party on Biddenham Turn

balloons, bunting and parasols looked lovely in the bright sunshine. There was a splendid selection of food and drink and plenty of games kept everyone entertained, including a popular tug-of-war.

Meanwhile, the Flower Festival had started in the church and ran until the end of Monday 3rd June. All aspects of village life were represented and the church was full of colour and perfume. The font was decorated with a purple crown, the bell ringers had shaped their golden flowers into a church bell and the Gardeners Association had used traditional English fruit and vegetables effectively in their arrangements. The children of St James' School, the Mums and Toddlers Group and the Rainbow Guides used sunflowers, cornflowers and country flowers in their arrangements. The Mums and Toddlers incorporated their toddlers' handprints in their display. After enjoying the flowers, many people went for a Cream Tea in the Church Barn.



The Flower Festival

The Biddenham festivities not only celebrated the Queen's Jubilee, but they also brought people who lived in

the Village together. On the Saturday night, Liz Watson and her team organized a Jubilee Party in the Village Hall with a buffet supper and dancing to 60s and 70s music supplied by 'The Old Skool Band'. On the Sunday, Anne Church and her team organized a Lunch Party in the Village Hall for the Over 60s residents in the village.

The good weather made it possible to have an Open Air Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving at 5.00pm on Sunday, on the Village Green. As well as the hymns and prayers, there were three well-chosen readings delivered by a representative from the Parish Council, a pupil from the Village School and a representative from Biddenham sport and social clubs.

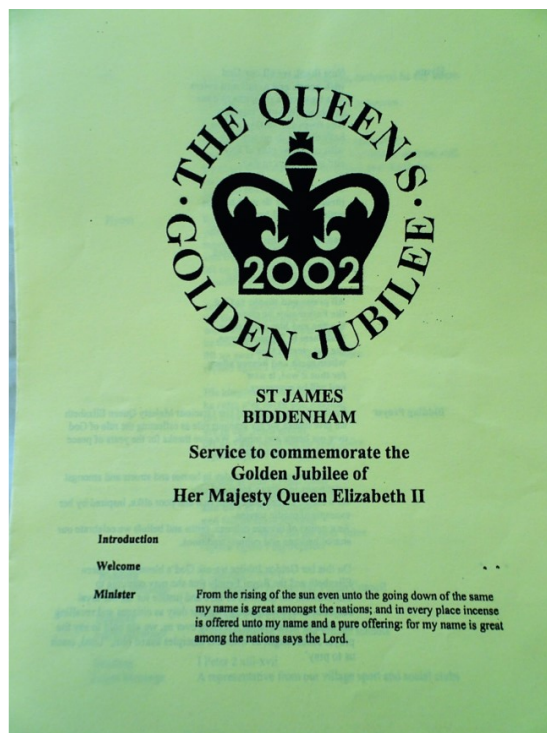
Events moved to the Pavilion and the Pavilion field on Monday and Tuesday and luckily the weather held! On the Monday there was a tea party for the children, street dance, games on the grass, live music from the Biddenham Upper School bands and a barbecue. In the evening there was a barn dance. The Cricket Club organized the annual Cricket VIs competition for the Tuesday.

All these activities were much enjoyed. Street dancing was then a new form of dancing and it appealed particularly to the teenage girls. They were happy to be doing something new and different. As one wrote for the Biddenham Bulletin 'it took time to get into it but soon we were dancing well and relaxed so as to enjoy it'.

In 2002 the hard work of the Jubilee team and their many helpers enabled Biddenham to give thanks to the Queen for her 50 years of service and strengthen fellowship amongst the residents. They were to do so again in 2012 for 60 years of service as you will read next month.

Kathy Fricker

The Biddenham History Society will be meeting on Monday 25th April at 2.30pm in the Church Barn. Peter Applewhite will be giving a presentation – 'Biddenham: 2 things you may have wondered about and the search for answers'.



The Order of Service for the Open Air Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving

A L & G ABBOTT

Funeral Directors

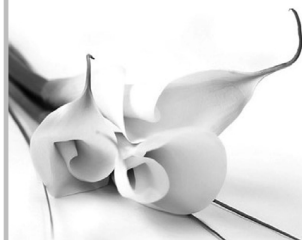
~ Established 1832 ~

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

How to help local homeless people

Have you ever walked past someone sleeping rough and not known how to help?

Homelessness is a big problem across the UK, and sadly that includes our local area.

In Bedfordshire and the Milton Keynes area there's a lot of amazing work going on to help homeless people, but there are simply not enough affordable homes. As well as those sleeping rough, there are many hidden homeless people who are sofa-surfing or stuck in temporary accommodation, often lacking basic essentials for daily life.



How to help

Christian Coley (pictured) used to be homeless and is now being supported by Bedfordshire charity Emmaus Village Carlton. Along with others from Emmaus, he now volunteers every week to help local rough sleepers. We asked Christian to answer some questions about how people can help...

If I see someone sleeping rough, what can I do?

"You can help connect someone with local services by calling Streetlink on 0300 500 0914 or by downloading their app (but if someone needs urgent medical assistance or is in danger, do call 999). Loneliness is also a big problem so if you can, please stop and talk. You could ask if there's anything they need, like a hot drink, something to eat, or warm clothing."

How do I find help locally, for someone who's at risk of becoming homeless?

"I'd recommend two useful websites which list local organisations and services that can help. For Bedford borough www.bedfordhomeless.org.uk and in the Milton Keynes area www.mkhp.co.uk

"Emmaus Village Carlton is the charity that's helped get me back on my feet. Based just outside of Carlton, north Bedfordshire, it offers a home, support, meaningful work and training to people who are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless. If you know someone who Emmaus might be able to help, you can call their Support Office on 01234 720826."

How can I help a local homelessness charity?

"There are many great homelessness organisations in our local area, which all need support. The charity that's helped me is Emmaus Village Carlton. You can help by visiting their three charity shops and bistro on School Lane, Carlton (open Wed - Sat 9.30am - 4.30pm / Sun 10.00am - 4.00pm) and by passing on your unwanted things for resale. You can also donate online and find out other ways to help, on their website: www.emmaus.org.uk/village-carlton"

St James's
Church
Biddenham

27th
March
9.30am

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Everyone
Welcome!

No booking required

Join us to celebrate
Mothering Sunday

Posies of flowers will be
given out during the
service

Gamaliel Ratsey: his life and end

You've probably driven along Bromham Road into Bedford many times and perhaps made the return journey back along Bromham Road. In which case you've driven many times past the place where Gamaliel Ratsey drew his last breath on 26th March 1605 ... as you turned Gallows Corner.

Dorothy Richards' village history records that many human skeletons have been found in the gardens surrounding this area. She also tells us that gallows were always placed at cross roads and it is believed there was at some point a road running from today's Clapham Road to the ford at Ford End, crossing the east-west route that is now Bromham Road. It's likely, she says, that road existed for some long time as crossing the river by the ford was free and avoided paying the toll to use the Bedford town bridge or the Biddenham Bridge.

Yes, until 1728 Bromham Bridge was known as the Biddenham Bridge, and no one knows why the name was changed. It seems 22 of the 26 arches are in Biddenham and only four in Bromham: should we petition to have our bridge back?!

The gallows were in place for at least 500 years until taken down in 1801. It was almost two hundred years earlier that Gamaliel there met his end.

He was the son of Richard Ratsey, a well-to-do resident of Market Deeping, Lincolnshire. Young Gamaliel was an excellent scholar but grew tired of academic pursuits and, it is said, 'took to evil courses'. He enlisted in 1600 in the Earl of Essex's army fighting in Ireland during the Nine Years' War, sometimes called Tyrone's Rebellion.

In 1603 he returned to England and on his way home turned to robbery, stealing £40 left temporarily with a barmaid in an inn in Spalding, Lincolnshire, for safekeeping by a farmer, the money being to repay a debt to a local gentleman. The theft discovered, a warrant was issued for Gamaliel's arrest. He was apprehended by the constable and faced a severe punishment for stealing such a large amount of money. Somehow though he managed to escape from prison.

He entered into a partnership with two thieves, George Snell, a career criminal, and Henry Shorthose who Gamaliel had known in Market Deeping. Gamaliel's exploits as a highwayman thereafter were notorious but also said to be characterised by daring and humour - charming and/or conning his victims rather than using violence, on one occasion robbing two wool merchants and knighting them by the roadside as Sir Walter Woolsack and Sir Samuel Sheepskin. He usually wore a mask with hideous features and there are references to him in contemporary literature as 'Gamaliel Hobgoblin' and of a 'face cut ... worse than Gamaliel Ratsey's'.

Gamaliel and his partners, it is said, were not totally ruthless and would on occasion steal from the rich and give to the poor. Whilst it is not clear whether this particular story is true or not, stopping an old man and woman on the road between Cambridge and Huntingdon, Gamaliel required them to stand and deliver. Finding, when he examined his purse, that the old man's plea that they had nothing but one shilling and sixpence and were on their way to sell the rest of their possessions in order to buy a cow was true, Gamaliel was moved to give them forty shillings from his own stock of money. There are other similar tales.

This though isn't one of them. Learning that a gentleman who lived about seven miles from Bedford had recently come into possession of £100, the trio planned to rob his house. Whilst waiting near the house, the gentleman's brother came riding out with the money in a bag. The gang chased after him and knocked him off his horse. The brother drew his sword, fought with Gamaliel and injured him quite badly. Gamaliel was only saved

when Snell came running up to help him. Seeing that it would be no use to continue fighting against three men, as Shorthose had now joined them, the brother gave up the money, and the trio made a quick escape.

They parted ways, intending to rendezvous at an inn in Southwark, London, a few weeks later to divide the booty. However, a few days after the robbery Snell was arrested for stealing a horse, a serious offence almost certain to be punished by hanging. Taken before a judge, Snell pleaded for mercy, and said that if the judge showed him leniency he would give up to the authorities a greater prize, the notorious offender Gamaliel Ratsey.

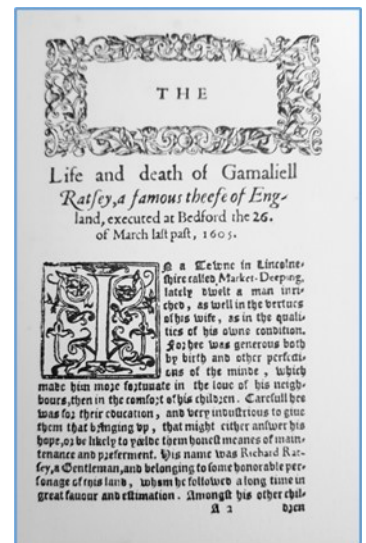
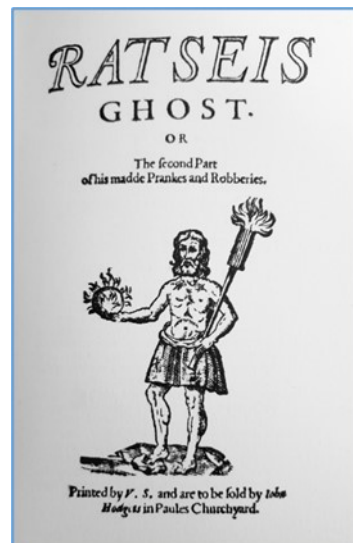
Snell told the authorities where to find Gamaliel, he was captured and taken to Newgate gaol. Shorthose, still at liberty and having heard about the two arrests, intended to go to Newgate incognito to see them. However, he was pointed out to the gaol keepers and arrested. The three were taken to Bedford for trial and sentencing. At Bedford, Gamaliel did make one attempt to escape, having managed to get free of his irons, but was quickly retaken.

Snell never received the reprieve he had hoped for as all three men were found guilty and sentenced to be hanged.

Two pamphlets were published soon after the hanging about Gamaliel's life and times which proved very popular.

Gamaliel may have done some good deeds but ultimately he was a rogue. But unlike the rogues who had gone before, what sets Gamaliel apart is these two pamphlets that were printed about his life which, says Doctor Stephen Basdeo, were in effect the first examples of true crime literature. There had been literature printed about criminals before, such as the early poems of Robin Hood. But the first pamphlet about Gamaliel Ratsey was the first time an author took the life and deeds of a real person, wrote it down and presented it to audiences for entertainment: Gamaliel Ratsey, the man whose life kick started the true crime genre.

Peter Applewhite





FARM SHOP
Manor Farm, High Street, Stagsden, Beds
(01234) 822330
www.brownsfstagsden.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

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*

Biddenham Cricket Club

The Club's Annual General Meeting is planned for Sunday 27th March at the Three Tuns at 7.00pm. More details will be sent to members nearer the time.

Planning for the new season has begun and it is anticipated that the club will run at least one team at all the junior age groups U9's, U11's, U13's and U15's. All teams will have fixtures in the Bedfordshire Youth League. Anyone wishing to join for the 2022 season please contact Chris Spurgeon. Junior training will commence in April and matches take place for the younger age groups on Sunday mornings, and for the U13's on Tuesday evenings, and the U15's on Thursday evenings from May until the end of July.

If anyone feels that they would like to become involved in helping with the junior section of the club, please contact me or Chris Spurgeon. A separate DBS certificate from the England and Wales Cricket Board will be required to be obtained by anyone wishing to become involved. This is now a much improved online process and details can be provided on how to access this.

The seniors will again be taking part in the Bedfordshire County League Division 1. This is a good standard of cricket (one division below the Premier League) but there are already some development team friendlies arranged for 2022 to involve the older juniors plus those for whom competitive league cricket is perhaps now too demanding. Anyone wishing to be involved please contact the cricket secretary.

During the winter months the club has entered two teams in the Bedfordshire Indoor League. The senior side has won a number of matches in their division. The development side in Division 5 has measured its success through the regular participation of at least 4 youngsters under the age of 15 (6 players in a team) in every game and the hope is that a victory may be achieved before the end of March.

More details for the new season will appear in the April Loop. The club welcomes offers of help maintaining the ground, particularly in cutting the Pavilion field where David Watson's presence will be greatly missed after two decades of skilful work on the ground as a whole, but particularly the excellent care of the cricket square.

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

Nick Sleaf
Proprietor

N.A.Sleaf Plumbing & Heating
7 Ison Close
Biddenham,
Beds MK40 4BH

Tel: 01234 959472
Mob: 07990 598154
Email: nicksleaf@live.co.uk



Peter's Picturehouse

We have chosen our March film, 'In the Heat of the Night' (certificate 12A) in honour of Sidney Poitier who plays the cool cop from the big city, Virgil Tibbs, visiting his mother in a small southern town in the US where he gets unexpectedly involved in the investigation of a murder. The film won five Oscars in 1968, Best Actor going to Rod Steiger. The storyline is riveting with magnificent performances and there is a great jazz score by Quincy Jones too.

Come and see (or re-see!) the film on our big screen in Biddenham Village Hall on Tuesday 1st March. We are a friendly bunch who enjoy watching some thought provoking or classic, or funny, or 'feel good', films in good company with the possibility of a cup or glass of something to hand, not forgetting ice creams too! The doors open at 7.00pm for the film to start at 7.30pm. Tickets priced £5 are available on the door. If you would like a lift to the hall, get in touch with Marihelen, whose details are on the poster.

We look forward to welcoming you to this, or our next film, 'The Intern' (certificate PG13) on Tuesday 5th April.

Rose Houghton



Peter's Picturehouse In March

Date: Tuesday 1st March 2022

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

Location: Biddenham Village Hall





Tickets available on the door, price: £5

Certificate: 12A

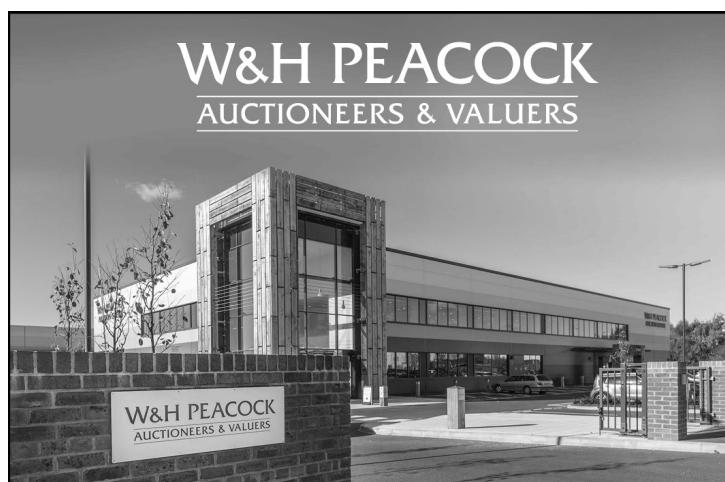
For further information contact
Marihelen
07710288933
marihelen@btinternet.com

In the Heat of the Night - © 1967 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc. All rights reserved.

Coming soon...

Tues 5th April 2022: The Intern (PG-13)

Sidney Poitier died at the age of 94 on 7th January 2022. He was the first Black performer to win the Academy Award for best actor and is credited with being the individual who paved the way for Black actors in film



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

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





Life continues as normal down at the pond. As the first signs of spring begin to show, the Pond Team are busy planning their activity for the coming months, with the welcome knowledge that Covid restrictions are gradually being removed. You may have noticed that the Biddenham Conservation Volunteers (BCV) have also been on site and coppiced three of the hazels, with the material left for cutting up and clearing later. We thank them for their help.

Chris will be holding his annual Frog Foray on Friday 18th March, meeting at the Pond at 9.00pm. Please bring a torch so that you can fully appreciate the life in our pond. No dogs but children are very welcome although they **must** be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for their safety.

We follow this with our Spring Work morning on Saturday 19th March. We will meet at the pond at 10.00am and aim to finish about noon, so please do put the date in your diary, and come and help us if you can. For more details, please see our poster below. There is much to do to tidy the pond and make the area ready for the spring/summer, so please come and help. The more volunteers we have the greater our achievement.

Having cancelled our AGM/Summer Tea in both 2020 and 2021, we are pleased to announce that we are aiming to hold this event on the afternoon of Sunday 12th June when we hope to welcome back our Friends and supporters and update you in person about our activities on your behalf. So please put this date in your diary and we will issue more details nearer the time.

Emptying the metal bin has in the past been done by our volunteers, who then take the rubbish home and sort for domestic recycling. The Pond Team feel that this is an unacceptable burden on them, and a potential health risk. We have not been able to organise any local council bin emptying and so we have decided to remove the bin completely and ask that in future everyone takes their

rubbish away with them. We will then monitor what happens.

Our plans for 2022 include the purchase of a new mower and to employ The Conservation Volunteers for another 2 sessions of necessary reed clearance. A new mower will help our wonderful mowing volunteers with the task of cutting the grass at the pond, since our current mower, which is over 10 years old, is increasingly unreliable and expensive to maintain. The combined estimated cost of both these projects is about £1,200 which we are unable to fund from the regular income that we receive from our Friends. Our plan is to raise the additional money that we need through grants and donations where we can and use our reserves to fund any shortfall.

If you would like to help us fund these projects, donations can be sent c/o Jane Knight at 59A Day's Lane, with any cheques made payable to The Friends of the Biddenham Village Pond. Alternatively, donations may be made by bank transfer using the details below.

Bank: Barclays
Sort code: 20-05-74
Account No: 30167797
Name: Friends of Biddenham Village Pond

If you donate by bank transfer, please email jane@80kltd.co.uk to let us know.

Thank you for your support.

The Pond Team

Contact Details

Chris Jones chrishj49@gmail.com
Cathy Eckett-Brown ceckett@gmail.com
Jane Knight jane@80kltd.co.uk
Sophie Applewhite-Rees dansop1@googlemail.com
Jonathan Field jfield21st@mail.com

www.biddenhamvillagepond.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/biddenhamvillagepond



The Biddenham Village Pond Spring Work Morning

Saturday 19th March

10am to 12 noon

All welcome – Meet at the Pond

(children must be over the age of 14 and accompanied by an adult responsible for their activity)

You will need stout footwear, gardening gloves and useful tools such as secateurs and loppers if you have them.

Please come and enjoy a morning in the fresh air and contribute to maintaining the unspoilt beauty of our pond.



Tea and Talk is back

The 'Tea and Talk' group is once again meeting weekly in Great Denham on a Thursday 10.00 am to 12.00 noon in the Great Denham Community Hall to enjoy interesting conversation and tea or coffee refreshments. A warm welcome for new visitors or members is assured.

Simply turn up or call Alison Stone for further information on 07952 658468.

Biddenham Gardeners Association

Designing a border from scratch (Part 3)

In February we were joined by Lucy Hartley a garden designer from Warwickshire. We have had, of course, two previous talks by Lucy on designing borders so this was the final instalment. In earlier talks Lucy had outlined basic design essentials and had discussed low maintenance plants. Her third talk featured plant choices and plant combinations for a year round border. The main message was to layer plants so that as one goes over another will come to the fore.

Lucy started her talk by discussing the importance of winter evergreens in providing structure. These plants hold the garden together and Lucy showed examples from her own garden and others that she had designed. She suggested that for low maintenance slow growing evergreens were best and her suggestions included holly, pittosporum, mahonia, yew, choisya and euonymus. For sunny borders she suggested the more Mediterranean evergreens such as bay, hebe, lavender and rosemary. Grasses also provide a good winter picture and are low maintenance. The shorter varieties can be combed through in the spring to remove dead foliage and the taller varieties cut back in mid February to mid March. Many of the perennials which are traditionally planted with grasses look good even when their flowers are fading. It is always good to leave seed heads over winter for the birds.

Once the evergreens are in place then Lucy suggested a succession of emerging plants. It is important to choose carefully however as some plants do not like being crowded and other plants have large untidy leaves that will ruin the effect in an all year round border. Lucy gave as an example, alliums as many of the larger varieties can be untidy and recommended allium sphaerocephalon as it flowers in July, has small oval shaped flowers and small leaves which will not detract from the other plants. Many tulips flower too late for year round borders and Lucy suggested species tulips which flower earlier than most. Bulbs planted under deciduous shrubs provide interest. Daffodils with crocosmia, muscari with anemone blanda and cyclamen coum are all good under shrubs. As with pulmonaria and primula these plants will not mind being shaded out later in the season when they have finished flowering. Lucy certainly knows her plants and many thanks to her for providing us with such useful recommendations for our borders.

We look forward to returning to the Village Hall for our next meeting on March 15th at 7.30 pm. We invite you all to join us for Colin Ward's talk on Ferns 'Fifty Shades of Green'. Details can be found on our website. The meeting will be open to all members, new members and visitors and if you have not yet renewed your subscription for membership of the BGA for 2022 you can do so at this meeting.

Linda Truscott

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



Tuesday 15th March
Biddenham Village Hall
10.15 am - 11.45am

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

Next café 19th April

St James's Church Barn

Ideal for small events, classes and meetings

£10 per hour

Includes full use of kitchen
 AV system available for a small additional charge

Contact us for further details

Email:

stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com
 (preferred contact method)

Tel:

Jane – 07831 172320
 Rebecca – 07769 944727

Church End, Biddenham MK40 4AR



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

New layout - tables of 6

Draw for 2 free lunch tickets every month
Book swap

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

4th March, 1st April

No Fear Duplicate Bridge

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

Contact Bernard Henry 07866 456759 or
bahenry@gmail.com

100 CLUB January draw

The winners were:

Peter Marks	No 471	1st prize
Stephanie McIntyre	No 86	2nd prize
Minaz Kotwal	No 85	3rd Prize

Drawn by Maggie Gardner



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

Contact Booking Officers:

Email: stjamesbarnbiddenham@gmail.com (preferred
contact method)

Jane Knight	07831 172320
Rebecca Balmbro	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	10.00am-11.30am	Pavilion
Gentle Yoga	2.00pm-3.00pm	Pavilion
Storm Martial Arts	7.00pm-8.00pm	Pavilion
Guides	7.15pm Termtime	Village Hall
Tuesday		
Over 50s fitness	10.00am-12noon	Pavilion
Café B	10.30am-12noon (3 rd in month)	Village Hall
Mums & Movers Yoga	10.45am	Village Hall
Mum & Baby Yoga	12.15pm	
Peter's Picturehouse	7.00 for 7.30pm (1 st in month)	Village Hall
HIT Fitness	7.00pm-7.30pm	Pavilion
Country Dancing	8.00pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Village Hall
Zumba	8.00pm-9.00pm	Pavilion
Wednesday		
Ballet	9.30am-11.30am	Pavilion
Baby College	10.00am, 11.00am & noon Termtime	Village Hall
Handbell Ringer practice	2.00pm	Church Barn
U3a Table Tennis	2.00pm-4.00pm	Pavilion
Thursday		
Under 5's	9.30am-11.30am Termtime	Village Hall
Line dancing	9.30am-11.30am	Pavilion
U3A Handbell Ringer Practice	2.00pm	Church Barn
Dance classes	4.00pm-7.00pm	Pavilion
Whist	7.30pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	Village Hall
Friday		
Pilates	8.30am & 9.30am	Village Hall
Jo Jingles	9.30am-12.30pm	Pavilion
First Friday Lunch	12.30pm (1 st of the month)	Village Hall
Quilting & sewing	10.30am-2.30pm (last of the month)	Village Hall
Brushstrokes Art Group	2.15pm-4.25pm	Pavilion
No Fear Bridge (intermediates)	2.30pm	Village Hall
Choir practice	7.00pm	Church Barn
Storm Martial Arts	7.00pm-8.00pm	Pavilion
Saturday		
Pregnancy Yoga	9.15am	Village Hall
Sunday		
Tai-Kwon Do	12noon-4.00pm Occasional	Pavilion
No Fear Bridge	6.00pm-9.00pm	Village Hall

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

March

Tue 1 Mar	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Wed 2 Mar	Ash Wednesday 6.00pm Imposition of Ashes Service at All Saints 7.30pm Imposition of Ashes Service at St James's, see p2 (No Virtch Online Zoom service)
Fri 4 Mar	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p14
Sun 6 Mar	8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at All Saints 9.30am All Age Service followed by said Holy Communion at St James's
Sun 13 Mar	9.30am Morning worship at St James's 10.00am Holy Communion Service at All Saints 6.30pm Service of Evening Prayer at St James's
Tue 15 Mar	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am, see p13
Tue 15 Mar	National Trust Association, Addison Centre, Kempston, 2.15pm, see p4
Tue 15 Mar	Biddenham Gardeners Association, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.30pm, see p13
Tue 15 Mar	Biddenham Parish Council, Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p6
Fri 18 Mar	Frog Foray, Biddenham Village Pond, 9.00pm, see p12
Sat 19 Mar	Pond Work Morning, 10.00am-12noon, see p12
Sun 20 Mar	8.00am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at All Saints 9.30am Holy Communion service at St James's 7.00pm Revive: Coffee/Bible/Fellowship at St James's Church Barn , see p4
Fri 25 Feb	Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am, see p14
Sun 27 Mar	Mothering Sunday 9.30am Morning worship Mothering Sunday Service at St James's, see p8 10.00am Holy Communion Service at All Saints
Sun 27 Mar	Biddenham Cricket Club AGM, Three Tuns, 7.00pm, see p10

April

Fri 1 Apr	First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p14
Tue 5 Apr	Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p11
Tue 19 Apr	Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am, see p13
Mon 25 Apr	Biddenham History Society, Church Barn, 2.30pm, see p7

Zoom Church Services every Monday & Wednesday

Every Monday at 9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom.
Every Wednesday except 2nd March (see above) 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 15

The Loop

Editor	Jean Gambold	Tel 349849
Proof Reader	Jacqui Piper	Tel 356993
Advertising	Clare Sugars	Tel 637281
Subscriptions	Richard Harris	Tel 210434
Distribution	Rosemary Harris	Tel 210434

All **April 2022** 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 16th March 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.