

The Loop

October
2022

£1.00



PRESS ASSOCIATION / Danny Lawson

The passing of Queen Elizabeth II and the accession of King Charles III has made the last month a rather strange one. Many of us have personal memories of her and I am grateful to those of you who have shared these.

Please see pages 4 and 5 inside.
God save the King.

‘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

Between 2010 and 2019 I made a series of visits to Sri Lanka and South India, involved in projects amongst very poor communities. I visited villages, schools, hospitals and even, on several occasions, a leprosarium. I will never forget the experiences I had there. I remember on one occasion addressing a girls' college of over three thousand students on Indian Independence Day in Tirunelveli (15th August 2016). I remember visiting a home in which the family goat had been especially slaughtered just for myself and the two women who were with me. I remember being held at gun point by soldiers during the Sri Lankan civil war and, very vividly, I recall seeing a very young woman breast feeding her baby on the top of a rubbish mound. I looked at her, and she looked back at me, and I remember seeing her eyes as clear and as vivid as if it was yesterday.

Of the day I arrived in India the first things I remember are the heat and the smell. We arrived at two in the morning and climbed into a rusting mini-bus. The journey was four hours and when we were eventually taken to a hotel in a very squalid part of town we were instructed to go into our rooms and 'rest' but on no account should we go out. It was nearly light and I could not rest so, as the day started, I decided that, against all advice, I would go out and explore. After all, I am a photographer so I needed to take pictures.

What struck me immediately was my colour. India has a range of different skin colours and from the North to the South, towards the equator, people are progressively darker. My DNA has its origins in Northern Europe and with my red/blond/grey hair I seldom wear shorts. As I walked around those busy streets in Tamil-speaking South



India these very black skinned people would have needed sun glasses to look at me, but look at me they did. I felt vulnerable and exposed. This gave me a sense of what it may feel like to look different in a white community. I suppose the difference is that people there were kind to me, and I was happy to be different for a short period of time.

'Kindness' is far from the experience of many people who are black but live as minorities in white communities in the UK. Racism is far from absent amongst white middle class people. As for many of us, the experience of being black is not something that we can own, I will continue, unwittingly, to be part of the problem, but that presents me (as somebody who is white) with an obligation to read and to listen to the voices of black people that have been, and are being suppressed. For me this is about the incarnation of Christ, because God in Christ is alongside all of us and we should be prepared to stand alongside those whose experience is at odds with our own.'

There is a woman who attends my church who I have a deep admiration for. She spends most of her life serving other people, but seems to keep a certain amount of distance between herself and the rest of the Church community which is, to a large extent, white. I have noticed over the last couple of years that she has been involved in the Black Lives Matter movement, something which I have a great affinity with. I have had a couple of conversations with her about the possibility of putting together a collection of stories and images from the Kenyan Community. She sees that as a wonderful opportunity to promote an awareness of Black History Month in October this year. I said to her on Sunday that I am not sure whether she has noticed, but I am not actually black. She replied to me, 'You are one of the blackest people I have ever met.' I feel deeply honoured by her saying this.

October is indeed Black History Month. When we look back at the texts of history, we find only the voices of those who have been empowered to speak. Always the voices of the slaves, of the oppressed and of the minorities have been silenced, so now it is time for us to recover those voices.

During October and beyond, if you have a story to tell that is relevant to Black History Month, then please let us know. We would love to hear it.

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

The Children's Society

There will be a Children's Society Box Collection this year and I will be taking in boxes in October. If possible, I would be grateful if you could bring your filled boxes to 2 Day's Lane. If not, please ring me on 356497 or text me on 07485744298 to arrange collection. The village contribution to the Society continued, albeit remotely, through the pandemic and, although the number of contributions was reduced, I was still able to send the Society hundreds of pounds.

Thank you for your continued support.

Eloise Carter

Graham Bates

We are sorry to report the death of Graham Bates of Elger Close on 17th September.

We send our condolences to his family and hope to carry an obituary in next month's Loop.

Bells of St James's ring for Peter

The bells of St James's Church rang out on 2nd September in a fitting tribute to much missed Biddenham resident, Peter Culverwell, who passed away on 11th May 2021, aged 96.

Several residents gathered in the church yard in the warmth of the early evening sunshine, including Peter's daughter and her family, to listen to this beautiful commemoration.



Peter was himself a keen bell ringer and one of his final requests was for the bells of St James's to ring at his funeral. Due to Covid, however, this had to be deferred. So, with the relaxation of Covid rules, the bell ringers were finally able to fulfil his wish.

Peter had two particular favourites – Bob Doubles and Falling Rounds – and both these were duly included as part of the bell ringing programme.

Known as 'Mr Biddenham' to his neighbours for his vast services to the local community over many years, Peter will be remembered, amongst other things, as Biddenham's unofficial handyman. He and his friend, Bill Fowler, would often be seen out on their bicycles carrying out various DIY tasks that they thought needed doing. It is thanks to them that benches and fences were painted, footpaths maintained, the village sign restored, and daffodil bulbs planted across the village for everyone to enjoy each spring.

Not surprisingly, he was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List in 2013 for services to the Biddenham community.

Special thanks to the eight bell ringers, many of whom were non-residents, who came to St James's specially to take part and honour Peter in this way.

In true bell ringing tradition, they all retired to The Three Tuns afterwards and raised a final glass to Peter.

Janet Field



BIDDENHAM GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Tuesday 18th October

7.30 pm

in

The Village Hall

We are pleased to announce that

Nick Bailey

Garden Designer and Presenter on
BBC Gardeners' World

will be joining us

His talk is entitled

"365 Days of Colour in the Garden"

Visitors are very welcome - £10 per person on the door

This event is, of course, free to all BGA members

HARVEST FESTIVAL

on

Sunday 9th October

Come and enjoy

Harvest Flowers in the Church

and

Cream Teas in the Church Barn

3:30pm-5:00pm



Proceeds to St James's Church

Remembering the Queen

Paul Fricker

The Queen visited Durham Cathedral for Maundy Thursday in 1967 when I was singing in the cathedral choir.



I came across this picture where you can see her walking through the choir stalls and I am the choral scholar on the furthest left. We sang some enthralling music to celebrate her coming and we had practised hard as the service was being televised. The Dean who looked after the Queen spoke warmly of her. Those who received the Maundy Money had a chance to speak to her afterwards and they thought she was very sensitive and kind.

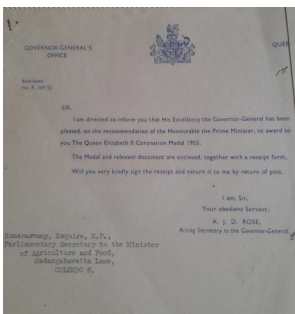


The choir was also given Maundy Money after the service and I still treasure it as a memory of a very special occasion.

Dhushy Vedavanam

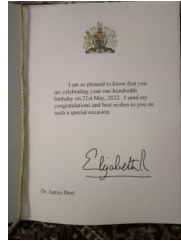
My father and mother greeted the Queen and Prince Philip when they disembarked the ship in Sri Lanka on their first official visit in 1954, shortly after the coronation. My father and mother presented them with a garland of flowers.

My father, Velupillai Kumaraswamy, was a member of parliament serving as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Food at the time. He was also awarded a medal to be worn in commemoration of the Queen's coronation on 2nd June 1953.



Jimmy Burt

Dr Jimmy Burt and his late wife, Mina, met the Queen at a garden party at Buckingham Palace in 1996 on their Golden Wedding anniversary. The Queen spoke to them and had been briefed about the anniversary. She asked them when it was and finding it was that actual day was delighted: "Philip and mine is next year," she said.



Jimmy also received a special birthday card from the Queen when he celebrated his 100th birthday on 21st May 2022.



Kate Smith

When my father was awarded the OBE, my sister and I, then aged seven and eight, went to the investiture at Buckingham Palace. We walked through corridors lined by guardsmen with gleaming breastplates and plumed helmets. We'd recently been to Madame Tussauds where my father had fooled us into talking to a ramrod-straight man dressed as a porter. He was a waxwork. Now as we traipsed through the Palace, we were mesmerised by the ramrod-straight guardsmen. My sister, pulling at my mother's hand, cried out: "Waxworks!" I saw the shadow of a smile flicker across a guardsman's face and squealed: "They're real!". We were ushered into a huge glittering room for the ceremony. The Queen wore a lemon yellow dress but, to my utter astonishment, no crown. The ceremony seemed very long, we clapped Dad like mad, and my new hairband was too tight!



Shortly afterwards the Queen invited my parents to a banquet at Windsor Castle. My mother bought a long velvet skirt with matching full length velvet cloak which later became a dressing-up favourite. The problem was

how to get there. We lived in Hampshire. Our car was a battered Austin. Dad booked a minicab. He only told the cab driver they were going to the Castle as they approached Windsor. The driver's amazement turned to delight when he discovered that the Queen's invitation to dine was therefore extended to him too. As my parents were shown into the Castle, he was directed to the Castle car park and taken to another hall for a slap-up dinner with all the other drivers. He and my parents all came out thrilled.



Rosemary Harris

The Queen has been there all my 69 years. My mother watched the Coronation at a neighbour's house when she was extremely pregnant with me. We did see her (in her raincoat and headscarf outfit) sitting on a Land Rover many years ago at the Badminton Horse Trials, and we went to a Palace garden party once but it poured with rain all afternoon and all we saw were some royal umbrellas. I suspect the Queen was under one of them...

Sophie (3): 'The Queen has died, so she won't have any more marmalade sandwiches in her big black bag'.

Jack (7): (After asking the new King's age) 'He isn't going to be King for very long then!'

(On being told the Coronation will take quite a while to arrange) 'Why don't they just put the Crown on his head?'

Jon Gambold

As Borough Councillor for Biddenham & Bromham ward I was invited to a Queen's Garden Party in May 2018. The weather was glorious, the music stirring and the afternoon tea delicious.

Jean and I were not quick enough off the mark to get close to the Queen; we saw her as a bright dot in the distance but it was a memorable occasion.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about the afternoon was bumping into our neighbour, Eloise Carter and her son on the Queen's lawn! It really is a small world.



Biddenham Cricket Club

Having finished second in the first division, the senior team qualified for a play off against the bottom team in the premier division. The match was held at Biddenham on 11th September and both teams observed a minute's silence before the game in respect for the Queen's passing.



The Biddenham Society

57th Annual Lunch and AGM

Sunday 6 November 2021

12.00 for 12.30 pm In the Village Hall

Admission: Adults £10 - Children free

Places must be booked and paid for by 31 October

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

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

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

***Find out about recent planning applications, decisions and appeals in and around Biddenham.**

*** Receive an up-to-date briefing on any developments, the Borough's plans for Biddenham, and any threats to the village.**

*** Hear about the changing remit of the Association and its proposed revised objectives.**

To help catering arrangements, please book early. Thank you.

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Letters to the Editor

From Mary and Pat McKeown

We are very happy that the Biddenham Show has returned this summer, after a long absence due to Covid. Our hearty congratulations to all the Committee and their helpers for making it such a splendid and successful occasion.

We thought it was probably the best ever, with a very large attendance, some brilliant sideshows, and a very good number of entries in the gardening and cooking events – especially considering the terrible weather conditions for growing almost anything in the garden this summer.

Our thanks to all who worked so hard to make our village show so successful.

From Will Jenkin

Well done and thanks to all of the Biddenham Show Committee and volunteers for the first post-Covid Show; a truly tremendous effort in re-establishing this marvellous community event.

It was fantastic to see so many people turn up and enjoy themselves in the sunshine with the wide variety of events, stalls and contributions to the village. I understand there was some thought that the Show should have been cancelled at this time of mourning but rather than do this, it was appropriate for a respectful minute's silence for the Queen at the start of the event.

Personally I am delighted that it did go ahead and that so many people felt the same way. I think Her Majesty would have been pleased.

Unclaimed raffle prizes

There were two unclaimed raffle prizes at the Biddenham Show: Do you hold the following raffle ticket numbers:

- Pink 60
- Yellow 262

If you hold one of these tickets, please contact Shelley on 07970 148022 to claim your prize.



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Biddenham Show 2022

Although not completely unexpected, the news of the death of Queen Elizabeth was a complete shock for us all. From early on the Friday morning after the announcement, the Committee was being asked “Will the Show go ahead?” Some of our stallholders needed to buy stock and so required a decision from us, but what should we do in a period of National Mourning?

We gave a great deal of thought to the best course of action, thinking through all the implications of cancelling and getting the thoughts of a few people in the village. The response was that the Show should be held if possible, and when guidance from the Cabinet Office was published that stated that during a period of National Mourning there is no need to cancel or postpone events, we made our decision to continue with the Show.

After everything that has happened in the last two years, we saw the Show as a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, but we wanted to respect the passing of the Queen. So, we agreed that we would mark the occasion with a minute's silence at the start, to end with the National Anthem, and to open a Book of Condolence in the Village Hall (which was kindly provided by the Head of St James' VA Primary School).

We understood that mourning is a very personal experience, and that some people might prefer a period of quiet reflection after the news, but we were overwhelmed by the number of people who came to the Show, showing their support for the decision that we took. After a misty morning, the sun shone, the minutes' silence was respectfully observed, people had a lovely day, and in so doing, the Show has generated a surplus estimated at £3,800 (although we still have some costs to come).

The Show Committee intends to use some of the money raised to cover the costs that we incurred during 2020 and 2021 when we could not have a Show (insurance and web site costs) and to purchase some new equipment for use at future Shows, but there will be a significant amount available to be donated to village organisations and groups.

We therefore invite you to submit any requests for funding by email to jane@80kltd.co.uk. Please provide a small amount of detail as to what the money will be used for. The deadline for submission of these requests is 11th November.

We would like to thank all the people who baked cakes for the Teas in the village hall, those who donated bottles for the Bottle Stall, those people who entered our competitions (illustrating the talent that exists in our village), our sponsors Taylor Brightwell and The Manor Hospital, those who donated our fantastic raffle prizes and all our volunteers who worked so hard on both the Saturday and Sunday, because without them the Show simply could not take place. Together we have made it one of the most successful Shows ever!

We would also like to thank all those people who have taken the time to contact us after the Show to express their appreciation for the time and effort that has been put in by the Committee.

The Show Committee

Maddy Anderson, Emma Bulleyment, Pia Carey, Cathy Eckett-Brown, Janet Field, Jonathan Field, Lin Fleming, Shelley Garland, Chris Garner, Elizabeth Hurford, Jane Knight, Stelios Mores, Sharon Radice-Newton

Pictures from the Show

You will find plenty of photographs from the Show in the enclosed supplement.

Winners – Garden, Flowers, Plants, Fruit & Veg, Kitchen, Arts & Crafts, Fancy Dress		
Peacock Spade	Resident gaining most points in flowers, fruit & veg	Dhushy Vedawanam
BGA Challenge Shield	BGA member - most points in flowers, fruit & veg	Dhushy Vedavanam
Mrs Lilly Bowl	Best dahlia entry by a resident	Jan Page
Ted Brooks Cup	Resident displaying best exhibit of vegetables	Mini Khumar
Maurice Appleton Rose Bowl	Best large flower arrangement	Dhushy Vedavanam
1913 Cup	Most colourful flower arrangement	Linda Truscott
Captain Carter Plate	Resident displaying best exhibit of fruit or herbs	Mina Kumar
Tyros Vase	Most points by a new resident in flowers, fruit & veg	Mark Brown
Three Tuns Cup	Exhibitor gaining most points in the kitchen classes	John Morris
Hon Romola Russell Cup	Best Pickle or Chutney	Jon Smith
Misses Howard Cup	Best lemon or lime curd	John Morris
BMX Cup	Most points by a male baker	Paul Nicholls
Hunniken-Lepper Trophy	Most outstanding print	David Smith
Bradbury Cup	Exhibitor gaining most points in photography	Dhushy Vedvanam
Cooper Cup	Best handicraft exhibit by female resident	Pauline White
Demery Tankard	Best handicraft exhibit by male resident	George Warren
Eric Green Cup	Best watercolour painting	Val Fitzhugh
Miss Steel Cup	Most outstanding artwork	Alicia Nicholls
Ormerod Cup	Young Biddenham - most points in garden classes	Max Wereszczynski
Biddenham International School Association Shield	Young Biddenham - best picture	Henry Warren
Biddenham Show Young Photographer Cup	Young Biddenham – best photograph	Evie Busby
Biddenham Show Young Biddenham Cook Cup	Young Biddenham – best cookery exhibit	Catherine Warren
Biddenham Show Young Crafter Cup	Young Biddenham – best craft exhibit	Mary Fox
Bristow Cup	Most points overall by a female resident	Dhushy Vedavanam
Sir Douglas Gordon Cup	Most points overall by a male resident	David Smith
Graham & Cathy Bates Cup	Most points overall by a resident family	Warren family
Wendy King Cup	Best Dog in Show	Luna - Tracey Holdstock
Biddenham Show Committee Cup	Best Fancy Dress	Evan Williams

Fun Dog Show Winners			
Cutest Puppy			
1st	Douglas	Golden R	Mandy
2nd	Luna	Labrador	Tracey
3rd	Ella	Shar Pei	Storm
Best Male Dog			
1st	Trevor	Labradoodle	Sophie
2nd	Hunter	Labrador	Kelly
3rd	Murphy	Whippet	Alex
Best Female			
1st	Lola	Vizsla	Jessica
2nd	Doris	Mix	Sarah
3rd	Oakley	Springer S	Nat
Golden Oldie (>7yrs)			
1 st	Jessie	Collie	Paul
2nd	Ted	Schnauzer	Jacob
3rd	Boris	Labrador	Aliya

Best Rescue			
1 st	Digby	Jug	Kirsty
2nd	Finn	Beagle	James
3rd	Hugo	Greyhound	Eleanor
Dog Most Like its Owner			
1st	Wilson	Terrier	Rachel
2 nd	Basil	Cocker S	Ellie
3rd	Winston	Cocker S	Tanya
Smiliest Face			
1st	Doug	Jug	Liam
2nd	Cassie	Mix	Jack
3rd	Luna	Labrador	Tracey
Waggiest Tail			
1st	Ralph	Dachshund	Scarlet
2 nd	Molly	Cocker S	Sarah
3rd	Lola	Cockerpoo	Peter
Best in Show			
	Luna	Labrador	Tracey

Christmas and the festive period at the Three Tuns

As the nights start drawing in our thoughts turn to Christmas.

At the Three Tuns, we have lunches from £25 for two courses, and Dinners from £29.50 for two courses available from 1st December. Booking will be essential.

£10pp deposit and the pre-order will be required to book.

On Christmas Day, we are open for your Christmas Day Lunch and have availability for 12.00, 12.30, 3.00 and 3:30pm. Availability is limited, so book early rather than be disappointed. A 25% deposit will be required to book. Online booking is not available, so drop in or give us a call.

The menus and all booking terms are available on the website <https://www.threetunsbiddenham.com>.

Please direct any queries to the manager on duty on 01234 354847.

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From Our 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 Costs There are a number of payments available to help you with rising costs of energy and food, which you can check on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment>. If you're eligible for any of the payments, in most circumstances you'll be paid automatically. If you are unable to use a computer, do contact me for help.

Easy Ways We Can Use Less Energy

Cooking

- Don't overfill the kettle – just boil enough water for your needs.
- Use the right sized pan for your hob, keep the heat down, and use lids where possible.
- Make toast in the toaster, not under the grill.
- Use a microwave or an air fryer rather than the oven.

Washing Machines and Dishwashers

- Use time saver settings, or eco mode, on washing machines and dishwashers, for all but the dirtiest loads.
- Don't run your dishwasher until it is full.
- Maybe wash your clothes less often, and run fuller loads.
- Wash clothes at lower temperatures if possible - up to 90% of the energy usage goes to heat the water.
- Minimise your use of a tumble dryer. If you want to get your towels soft, dry them normally and put them in the tumble dryer for just 10 mins with dryer balls, or else brush up the pile with a nail brush when dry.

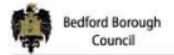
Curtains

- Shut out the night and keep in the heat, but make sure you don't drape your curtains over radiators. Open your curtains during the day to let the sun in.
- You can buy ready-made thermal curtains, or line your curtains with an insulating material to dramatically reduce heat loss. You can get thermal curtain lining which can reduce heat loss by as much as 25%.
- Blinds hung behind your curtains create an extra layer of insulation to keep in the heat. The new cellular or honeycomb blinds are especially effective at insulating your windows.

Do You Need Help Filling in Forms? I can visit you at home. Just call 0800 039 1234.

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.)



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The artistic talents of Terry Platt

Reading through our final issue of *The Loop* before we leave the village after 37 happy years, I was saddened to learn of the death of Terry Platt. The editor briefly referred to his artistic skills, particularly in the design of the village sign, but I felt I could not depart Biddenham without recording a further tribute to his undoubted talents.

I first met Terry when my wife Marion joined David Lewry's local art group held in the church barn. Collecting her every week, I was privileged to see the work of the group, which was of a very high standard. Terry's paintings in particular were of exceptional quality and beauty, week after week.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary in 2015 of the Biddenham Society (of which I was then chairman), a successful bid was made to the Heritage Lottery Fund to finance the creation of a Biddenham Heritage Trail. Some of the funds were earmarked for a set of information boards identifying the alternative trail routes, and highlighting interesting features in and around the village. Having already been impressed with their work, I invited Terry's art group to submit original illustrations for possible reproduction on the information boards.

More than 50 paintings and drawings of Biddenham and the river valley resulted, and an open exhibition was held with visitors invited to vote for their preferences. All works submitted were eventually reproduced in miniature on three display panels, and presented by the society to the village hall and the church barn as a pictorial record of Biddenham in 2015. Jean Gambold (*The Loop* editor), and Graham Bates (then chairman of the parish council), were invited with myself to form a judging panel to select the 30 or so we needed for the heritage trail. In reaching our decisions, we carefully took the public votes into consideration, but it was not an easy task to reduce the numbers, made more difficult as Terry had submitted several pictures, far more than any other artist, and all of outstanding quality.

We finally made our selection, and despite the strong competition, all of Terry's paintings were chosen for reproduction on the six boards scattered around the village. Next time you go for a local walk, watch out for his pictures. You will not be disappointed.

Tony Wood



Biddenham Art Group 2015, with Terry left foreground



Quiz Night

Saturday 5th November at 7.15p.m.

Teams of 6 /8

Or make up a table with others

Two course supper

Bar for wines, beer and soft drinks

Tickets £15 from Liz Watson

liz4watson@aol.com or 345028



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visit: greenthumb.co.uk/bedford



Biddenham Parish Council

The September meeting was cancelled due to the death of the Queen.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th October 2022 at 7.30pm at the Pavilion in Deep Spinney and all are welcome..



Annual General Meeting
Thursday 3rd November 2022

8pm

Biddenham Village Hall

www.biddenhamvillagehall.org.uk

The AGM will be taking place as normal in the Village Hall.

We are pleased to say that this year has seen the return to full opening and the return of many of our regular users along with some new events. The Committee would welcome hearing ideas about ways to improve the Hall. The Village Hall "belongs" to you, the residents of Biddenham, and the short AGM gives you a chance to hear about the management of the Hall and give your views. Please come along. If you can't make the meeting but have some bright ideas please contact any of the Committee or leave a message on the website.

We look forward to seeing you on 3rd November.

Biddenham Village Hall Management Committee



St Joseph's & St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Chester Road, Bedford MK40 4HN (01234 352062)



OPEN AFTERNOON

Parents are warmly invited to come and have a look around our setting from 3:45pm on the following afternoons:

- **Tuesday 20th September / 4th October / Wednesday 19th October 2022**
(appointment required)

Please contact the school to book your appointment on 01234 352062 or admissions@sjsg.beds.olicatschools.org

**OUR LADY
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Biddenham Cricket Club



The Senior team finished the season strongly and, due to an unexpected defeat for Bedford in their final fixture, Biddenham finished in second place in the league table. This resulted in an extra play-off match against Caldecote on the same day as the Biddenham Show.

Our Chairman, Glenn Taylor commented: "The senior XI had a great season finishing 2nd in the Sunday first division after the usual faltering start and qualified to play off against the bottom team in the Premier league above. With the luxury of a strong team we narrowly lost when we really shouldn't have, but that is cricket and we go again next season where we will be better prepared to be promoted.

A second development team played four games this season with more planned next and the mix of three seniors and eight juniors produced some outstanding results".

The end of season awards evening for the Senior team has recently been held. Those recognised for their achievements were:

Billy Bates – Best Individual Batting Performance and Batting Award

Matt Cannon – Best Individual Bowling Performance

Ross Cunningham – Bowling Award

Ross Cunningham – Players' Player

Carlton Perkins – Most Improved Player

Charlie Searle – Young Player of the Year



Billy Bates receiving the batting award from Ross Cunningham, captain..

The junior league matches were all completed by the end of July, but a large contingent of all age groups gathered together at the Pavilion Field on the last Friday evening of August to enjoy one final training session. Thanks were recorded for all those who have contributed to running the youth section in 2022. Individual player awards were made as follows:

Under 9s:

Star Performer – Josh Featherstone

Coaches' Award – Hugo Gill

Endeavour – Christopher Patel

Under 11s:

Star Performer – Oliver Featherstone

Coaches' Award – Oliver Gauntlett

Endeavour – Rayyan Iqbal

Under 12s

Star Performer – Jessica Edwards

Coaches' Award – Toby Hudson

Endeavour – Dylan Uppal

Under 13s

Star Performer – Zayan Mazi-Kotwal

Coaches' Award – Oliver Andrew

Endeavour – Muhammad Azhar

Under 15s

Star Performer – Alec Carlton-Smith

Coaches' Award – Amelia Crowe

Endeavour – Alex Priestley

Long serving Under 15 players who joined the Under 9 group in 2016 were recognised – Dillon Basi and Matthew Aberly.

The club will again participate in the Bedfordshire Indoor Cricket league which is based in Bedford, and offers a cross-section of club members the opportunity to play cricket during the winter months.

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

Andrew Charles

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Biddenham
Conservation
Volunteers

Once again our conservation volunteers have been busy around the village.



There has been some more footpath work with more to come and some surveying of trees in Cowslip Meadow. Insect habitats have been built from the brush (bits of tree) produced by coppicing trees in a previous year.

The grass in Cowslip Meadow has been cut by the contractor and this year the bales are due to be removed. The mower has left a part of the rough long grass at the far end uncut to give an area favourable to owls and hawks hunting for field voles. We are

setting up a programme for work in the Meadow over the autumn and winter.

The grass in the conservation part of the churchyard extension has been cut. This late grass cut is designed to facilitate the seeding of grasses and flowers to improve the diversity of the meadow. This also applies to the two conservation plots in the churchyard.

The team hopes to get more involved in some footpath work, including installing posts and signage. This is important work as all our Rights of Way should be fully marked and walkable.

We now have a full set of tools thanks to the Parish Council.

We still hope to work on a variety of public sites around the village and are enquiring about some of them via The Biddenham Estate.

Would you like to register with us? Please contact Gilly Cowan on: gillycowan@btinternet.com.

Chris Jones

Climate Change

We do not control our Planet
 In the vast expanse of Space
 We are but dust that comes and goes
 No matter what our Creed or Race.

Though hot and getting hotter,
 Nature does what it will do;
 We merely make the climate worse
 By burning fossil fuel.

The scientists will argue
 Whatever shall we do?
 But Nature and the Planets
 Have their own time what they do.

But cheer-up for it could be worse
 Our Planet's in a heat-wave stage.
 Thank God we are not suffering
 In a frozen, cold Ice Age!

Robin Salter

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This month in the garden

Well, the rains came and we survived the heat of the summer - now our gardens and our poor beleaguered trees can recover. I understand that, to date, this has been the driest year since 1976. However, I have to say that I have had the best crop of Sun Gold tomatoes ever this year and the sunshine on the days when it wasn't too hot was lovely. Mercifully we did not have a hose pipe ban in this area and so managed to keep a selection of plants ticking over. When I was holidaying with my family in Cornwall during the last week in August it was plain to see that the drier weather and hose pipe ban in the South West had really taken its toll on the tree ferns and hydrangeas in some of the lovely gardens my son and I visited whilst the rest of the family were paddle boarding, surfing and coasteering. There is something for everyone in Cornwall!

With the autumn approaching, now is the time to cut down the tomato plants and make green tomato chutney - always a favourite in our family. October is the month when most of us start to take up the summer plants and refresh our hanging baskets and tubs ready for winter. However, do not be too tidy in the rest of the garden; piles of logs and leaves provide winter habitat for overwintering insects and invertebrates, and leave as many plants as you can with seed heads for winter structure and food for the birds.

I have been repotting my auriculas in fresh gritty compost mix - teasing apart the 'carrots' and planting up singly in the hope that next spring they will be an improvement on this year. I brought my amaryllis bulbs into the garage this week. The plants have been resting under the staging in the greenhouse since their flowers died in the spring and I gradually reduced the watering during the summer months. The leaves are still green, but over the next couple of months they will dry out completely and hopefully will have a good store of food in their bulbs so that they will produce brilliant blooms when I repot them after Christmas - I will let you know how I get on. I said that I would report back to you on the garlic spray recommended by a friend as a slug deterrent. Well - it worked partially - my hostas are certainly an improvement on last year, but I had to resort to good coverings of grit alongside the regular spraying.

The nurseries and garden centres are filled with tempting bulbs for spring displays - and I have to say I have succumbed to the temptation to buy yet more. We also eagerly await the packages of bulbs ordered many months ago. However, although one can start to plant most bulbs in October, please do not plant tulip bulbs until late November at the earliest. Tulip bulbs are very prone to disease and will do better if planted when it is cold. When they arrive keep them in a cool, frost free place for as long as you can. I have even planted them a few days before Christmas and they were still absolutely fine.

Ornamental grasses really come into their own at this time of the year and now is a good time to plant them. They are so easy to grow and their soft foliage wafts in the breeze allowing glimpses of other plants beyond. On frosty days they provide stunning structure to the garden. Whether you choose *Stipa gigantea*, known as the golden oats, *Miscanthus sinensis*, with its fine silvery leaves and bearing masses of upright feathery, red-brown plumes which turn to silver in autumn or *Hakonechloa macra* with its yellow striped foliage, red-tinted in the autumn and good for containers, I am sure you will not be disappointed.

On many late afternoon/evenings during the last couple of months I have had a fascinating visitor to my garden. It resembles a huge bee, but with wings that beat so fast it is impossible to capture on camera. It hovers over the salvia flowers on my patio and takes in the nectar with a very long proboscis. I had not seen anything like it before and when I described it to my daughter, who lives in Cambridge, she said that they had also seen one in their garden on numerous occasions, taking nectar from salvia

flowers. We looked it up and came to the conclusion that it is a Hummingbird hawk moth. Has anyone else had this visitor in their garden?

As we travel into the real autumn days and nights look out for frosts, take in house plants, clear out the greenhouse and reduce the amount of water for plants that will stay in here over winter. Have a pond clear out, cut down the dead and dying leaves of marginal plants and cover the pond with netting to catch the falling leaves, but remember to leave escape routes for toads, frogs and newts and check regularly to make sure that any birds that have decided to bathe have not been trapped.

Linda Truscott

The Friends of St James, Biddenham
presents

An afternoon with

Heart and Music



Musical Director: Malcolm Crane

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

3pm, Saturday 3rd December 2022

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

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

Pay on the door. Drinks and light refreshments in the interval

Any queries? Just email peterleverkus@outlook.com

In aid of The Friends of St James, Biddenham
- the charity which preserves and enhances the historic church buildings for future generations

- **and St James' Church Ukraine Support** 

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Pond dries out ...

Although there has been some rain recently, sadly the Pond remains bone dry, and the weeds and reeds continue to grow. The two sessions of reed clearance that we had booked for the end of September had to be cancelled, because the ground is just too hard, and so not cost-effective to even try. We are currently reviewing our options as to how we deal with our perennial reed growth problem.

We would also like to thank all those who volunteered to mow the grass this season, although many sessions were not required, since the grass was refusing to grow. We do hope that you will volunteer again next year.

Interactive pond table at the Biddenham Show

The Pond Team set up a table in the entrance to the Village Hall for the recent Show, with displays of pond life. It was great to see so many people at the Show, and many visited our table to find out more about what we did, down at the Pond. Kris, the newest member of the committee started an initiative based on the question "if you had a magic wand what would you create in the field behind the pond?". This field, part of the new Saxon Park Development Plan is intended for wildlife gain and thus of interest to the Friends. The idea being to ask children to draw what they would like to see this field used for, and to start them thinking about and engaging with the natural world that surrounds our village. They had some very interesting ideas

mud kitchen - (Harry, age 4)

a picnic area with bunting, fairy lights, table and benches

- a nature space for tadpoles and whales (Nancy, age 3)
- a country park for an amazing day out (Charlotte, age 7)
- a space for an animal hunt (Seren, age 7)
- long grass to make shapes in (Lilith, age 8)
- a carousel (Autumn, age 3)
- a Picnic Table (Lucy, age 2)

Volunteer morning

Our next work morning will be on Saturday 12th November starting at 10.00am and finishing about noon. Refreshments will be provided. Please wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves and tools such as secateurs and loppers. Everyone is welcome, although child volunteers must be aged 14 and over, and supervised by a responsible adult who is a family member.

The Pond can be found behind the Manor Hospital and the footpath that will take you to it is at the junction of Main Road and Gold Lane, where there is a signpost with a kingfisher. Alternatively, it can be reached from the footpath behind St James Church along the ancient Coffin Path that takes you across the fields and back to the village. Let's hope that our Pond soon returns to looking like a pond again!

The Pond Team

Contact Details

Chris Jones

Cathy Eckett-Brown

Jane Knight

Jonathan Field

Kris Burchill

www.biddenhamvillagepond.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/biddenhamvillagepond

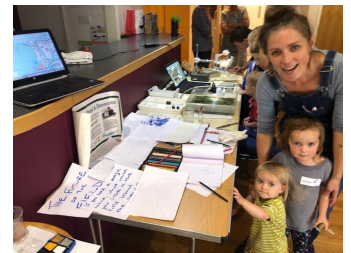
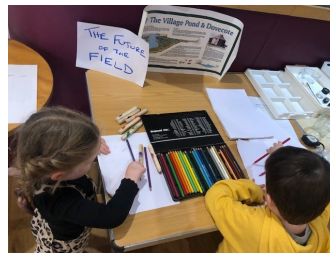
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kristenhopebee@gmail.com



Pictures from Biddenham show by Kristen Hope



Tuesday 18th October
Biddenham Village Hall
10.15 am - 11.45am

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

Next café 15th November

Biddenham History Society

The meeting of the Biddenham History Society that was to have been held on Monday 19th September was postponed as it was the day of the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Society will now meet on Monday 24th October from 2.30pm - 4.30pm in the Church Barn. Peter Applewhite will be giving his presentation 'Missing Links: tales of disaster, murder, plague, fire and poetry', in which he will be revealing more about his researches into Biddenham history.

We will be setting up the room from 2.30pm - 2.45pm and the presentation will start at about 2.45pm. In case there is any resurgence of Covid, we will be taking precautions - spacing out chairs, providing hand sanitiser and ventilating the room. A donation of £2 per person would be appreciated to meet the costs of running the meeting. We hope you will be able to come and will enjoy the presentation.

Best wishes,

Paul and Kathy Fricker

Henry Missing: the man who took Biddenham to Australia

Henry Missing, seventh and last child of Reverend John and Sarah Missing, was born on 1st September 1838, shortly after his father left the Parish of Fawley, Buckinghamshire, to become Curate in Biddenham.

Fast forward to November 1856 and 18 year old Henry, a banker *'intended for city life and finance'*, is aboard the *Robert Kelly* arriving in New York and bound for Canada. But hold, fast forward to July 1858 and Henry, a gentleman, is aboard the *Lincolnshire* arriving in Melbourne, Australia.

A passenger's diary reveals something of the journey:

On 9th May, *'the Reverend M Cox performed divine service ... the sailors were all in attendance, but from what I heard after I don't think they will attend again. The stupid fellow of a steward spoiled our preserved meat and we had to manage a dinner in the best manner we could ...'*

On 14th May, *'the man that is deranged much worse today and is therefore confined to his cabin ...'*

On 5th June, *'rain and wind with the sea dashing over the ship ... then to crown the whole, nothing fit to eat.'*

But happily on 5th July, *'the watch on the lookout called out land at 4:06 this morning and after that there was no sleep for us.'*

Leaping ahead to look back, reports of Henry's death in 1910 in Maryborough, Queensland, recount that he engaged in *'pastoral pursuits'* gaining experience first in Victoria, then Queensland before joining *'De Satge's expedition to open up the Barcoo country'*.

'... these men formed a party ... in the quest for fresh fields and pastures new. Mr J. T. Allen ... writing in 1888 on the subject of wanderings towards the west in search of squatterages says:- 'Missing and de Satge joined us at Albina Downs, where occupied country ended. The distance our party travelled from Albina Downs to Western plains across explored though unclaimed country was 200 miles.'

'Not tempted by country adjacent to Burenda the party turned their faces westward, cutting the Warrego and passing through scrub to the Nive' ... 'At Minnie Downs run Missing and de Satge left Allen's party to return. Lots were drawn for appointment of the country traversed. The Nive and the Ward country ... fell to Missing and de Satge.'

And it was there in January 1863 Henry claimed his run and named it Biddenham, where in England his father on his death in 1840 was Curate and where two of Henry's siblings are memorialised, and where Henry may have been born in the Rectory, of which more below.

All the land in the colony was Crown land and those laying claim to land were known as squatters, establishing their runs, large areas of land on which sheep and cattle could graze with little fencing. The Government from 1839 onward brought in controls on the pastoralists through annual licences, later leases, by limiting the size of a run to 250 square miles and requiring surveying and defining of boundaries.

Little thought though was given to other agriculturalists; rural Australia was the domain of the pastoralist. This changed with an Act in 1868 allowing the Government to acquire half of a run by resumption or voluntary surrender, the resumed part being surveyed into blocks suitable for smaller agricultural farms. The run holder would receive a new lease on his part as well as other benefits.

The Government thus achieved its objective of closer settlement with more people using the same area of land, with the added benefit of an increase in rent payable to it. Resumption was applied subsequently to Biddenham.

Henry may have been a rather sentimental speculator. An 1875 article on a tour of Queensland included

Biddenham, where the tourists spent the night: *'The station is not too far distant from a bold range. From the house on the west bank of the Nive, there is a beautiful view of the Barrandilla mountain, distant southward about five or six miles. ... Biddenham was first taken up about the year 1863 by Mr. Missing, evidently as a speculation, for he sold it to Mr. James Dunn, who stocked it and erected "improvements."* A notice in 1864 records Henry's transfer of his license for Biddenham.

An 1867 map of runs recently found shows a range of hills south of the Biddenham run named the Biddenham Hills. Whilst Henry didn't hold Biddenham for long it has remained Biddenham, passing through a number of owners to the current owners, the Newells, who hadn't known that those hills were once called the Biddenham Hills.

Henry built a family in Australia, on 3rd March 1871 in Brisbane marrying Elizabeth Emily Uhr, the daughter of Edmund Blucher and Amy Uhr. Edmund, himself born in England, was in 1865 appointed Sergeant at Arms of the Queensland State Legislative Assembly.

Henry and Elizabeth had seven children: Herbert Henry, Amy Elizabeth Jessie, Florence Raby, Alice Maud Mary, Frank Leslie, Ethel Violet, and Claude O'Connor after



Henry Missing



Elizabeth Emily Uhr

whose birth in 1887 Elizabeth died eight days later aged only 35 and after just 16 years of marriage. Henry never remarried.

It was while Henry was at the Telamon station on the Logan River that he met and proposed to Elizabeth, then only 16, who was holidaying with the Barkers at the Tamrookum station. Daughter Ethel wrote about their meeting in her article *'Henry Missing – A Queensland Pioneer'* in a book published on Queensland's centenary in 1959 by the Queensland Women's Historical Association: *'Elizabeth was very young and pretty, and full of confidence; she volunteered to make a sponge cake which turned out a complete failure.'* Father Edmund had at first been concerned at his young daughter's passion for an older Henry, but came to enjoy his company.

Ethel also wrote that Henry was born *'... at Biddenham Rectory, Bedford.'* I haven't been able to confirm that; Ethel didn't get everything right, and other information points to nearby Bedford where the family was living as his place of birth. But, if true, it would have added substantially to the other factors contributing to Henry's decision to name the run Biddenham.

There's more to tell you about the sponge cake, Henry and his life in Australia.

Peter Applewhite

{With thanks to Trove for Australian newspaper extracts, to the State Library of Victoria for the extracts from the diary of passenger William Merifield, to the National Library of Australia for the article by Henry's daughter, Ethel and the King and Uhr families for the photographs.}



Peter's Picturehouse In October

Date: **Tuesday 4th October 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 1st November

The Duke (12A)

Peter's Picturehouse

October's film, Operation Mincemeat (12A), tells another story based on real life, but this time, during the second World War. It stars Colin Firth and Matthew Macfadyen as intelligence officers who think up a plot to fool Nazi Germany into thinking the invasion is planned to be of Greece and Sardinia, rather than Sicily. There is romantic interest and some fine acting performances according to reviews, and it's a great opportunity to learn about a remarkable military operation. The film was first shown in British cinemas in April 2022.

As usual, our film is showing on the first Tuesday of the month, Tuesday 4th October, in Biddenham Village Hall. Doors open at 7.00pm and the film showing starts promptly at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and are available on the door. We hope you will enjoy coffee, tea, wine, beer or soft drinks, either before the film or in the short interval. These are all on sale along with ice creams.

Do come along, bring your friends, make new friends, and have a warm and entertaining evening in the village hall! If you would like a reminder of the films or more information, please send an email to:

peterspicturehouse@gmail.com

Tues 4th October Operation Mincemeat (12A)

Tues 1st November The Duke (12A)

Rose Houghton



Did you know?

Back in the June and July editions of **The Loop** we talked about the original financing of the Barn. Now we would like to tell you the reasons why it was felt that a hall belonging to the Church was considered important for the village.

"The aim was to provide something of interest outside normal church services for ALL ages - mother & toddlers, 5-12 year olds, young people's fellowship, facilities for afternoon teas, Saturday morning games, musical concerts, bible reading, Sunday school, plays and activities relating to the Christian faith, Sunday morning coffee and fellowship, St James's Guild, men's fellowship, meetings for older members of the church, the disabled, church bazaars, social evenings for young and old together. It was felt that there was a clear need for all this and that it would not compete with the village hall."

Times have changed since the end of the 70s, and people's interests have switched to more activities outside of the church and the village. However, the Barn is still used for regular church activities, but not on the scale originally envisaged. It remains a valuable community asset and hosts several village organisations such as the Handbell Ringers and the History Society, and from this school term it has ballet lessons, children's cookery classes, Toddler Sense and for adults we have Fit Flamingo yoga. We also take bookings for baptism and birthday parties as well as gatherings for friends and families.

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

Jane and Rebecca



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Biddenham Gardeners Association

How to get your house plants thriving

On the 20th September we were pleased to welcome Jane Perrone. Jane is a freelance journalist specialising in plants and gardening. She writes for a range of publications including The Guardian, The Financial Times, Gardens Illustrated and The English Garden. Jane is a house plant expert who presents and produces an indoor gardening podcast entitled "On The Ledge". She is also a member of the Royal Horticultural Society's Advisory Committee on Houseplants. So, a very good person to advise us on how to get the best out of our own specimens.

Jane was full of enthusiasm for her subject and was very knowledgeable. She brought with her a range of house plants with which to illustrate her talk and many of them were for sale at the end of the evening. Jane's first rule when choosing a house plant is to look at it carefully. The thickness of the leaves will give a clue as to its care. Thick, fleshy leaves like those of the Jade plant are an indication that the plant is able to store water and therefore able to cope with drier conditions. Whereas thin, papery leaves like those found on the Oxalis triangularis suggest that the plant will require more water. Silvery, furry leaves enable the plant to deflect light back from the plant and protect it from the heat giving an indication that the plant will be able to tolerate warmer, sunnier, drier conditions.

As well as looking at the leaves Jane suggested that we take a plant out of its pot and examine the roots. This will tell us a lot about the health of the plant. If the plant roots have an unpleasant smell this may be an indication of root rot. Roots need air as well as water. Stab the soil with a stick to introduce more air especially if the plant is too large to repot. The family of plants which do not mind sitting in water are the carnivorous plants, of which the Venus flytrap and pitcher plants are examples. However, always make sure that the water they sit in is rain water or distilled water. Getting the water and light right are the most important aspects of successful house plant ownership. Potting mix is important and roughly one third to a half of grit to house plant compost is a good ratio for most house plants. Jane had a good tip for ferns and other moisture loving plants. Put a piece of cord through the bottom of the pot with one end right up into the compost

and the other end in a pool of water - the plant can then take up the water it needs. Most plants will need less water in the winter period and this particularly applies to cacti which need a period of dormancy.

Following Jane's talk there were numerous questions. What to do about mealy bugs - rub off with alcohol soaked cotton buds or use a biological control. When to pot on - when the plant is actively growing and then only into the next size up of pot. When to feed - weekly but weakly. Can you chop off the roots of a plant if they are growing out of the bottom of the pot - yes. To a question on orchids - if the roots are a silvery colour the plant is dry and can be watered, if the roots are green there is sufficient moisture in the pot. Jane has a book out in April of next year "Legends of the Leaf" profiling 25 iconic house plants, charting their history and giving tips on how to help them thrive in your home. Many thanks to Jane for a very informative talk and for providing answers to our queries.



Please join us next month on Tuesday 18th October when Nick Bailey - a well known face from BBC 2's Gardeners' World will be joining us to offer advice on how to achieve "365 Days of Colour in our Gardens". 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

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 Tel: Jane - 07831 172320 OR Rebecca - 07769 944727

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:

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

7th October, 4th November

Quilting & Sewing Group



Biddenham Village Hall
10.30 a.m.

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



No Fear Duplicate Bridge

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

Contact Bernard Henry 07866 456769 or
bahenry0309@gmail.com

100 CLUB August draw

The winners were:

1st	Nicholas Morgan	80
2nd	Debbie Mullen	81
3rd	Jon Gambold	1

Drawn by Fran Eyre



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

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 Termtime	Village Hall
Tuesday		
Over 50s fitness	10.00-11.00am	Pavilion
Mum & Baby Yoga	10.30am Termtime (except 3 rd in the month)	Village Hall
Café B	10.15am-12noon (3 rd in month)	Village Hall
Cook Stars	10.15-11.00am Termtime	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		
Ukrainian Community Coffee morning	10.00am-12noon	Church Barn
Kensington Ballet	10.00-11.00am	Pavilion
Baby College	10.00am, 11.00am & noon Termtime	Village Hall
Handbell Ringer Practice	2.30-4.30pm	Church Barn
Table Tennis	2.00-4.00pm	Pavilion
HIT Fitness	6.30-7.30pm	Pavilion
Adult Yoga (Beginners/Improvers)	7.00-8.00pm	Village Hall
Thursday		
Under 5's	9.30-11.30am	Village Hall
Line dancing	9.30-11.30am	Pavilion
Oasis	9.00am-12noon (1 st & 3 rd in month)	Church Barn
U3A Handbell Ringers	2.00-3.30pm	Church Barn
Pregnancy Yoga	7.00-8.30pm	Village Hall
BDCPS Sing for Wellbeing	7.15-8.15pm (2 nd & 4 th in month)	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
Fit Flamingo Yoga	10.00-11.30am	Church Barn
First Friday Lunch	12.15pm (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
St James's Choir Practice	7.00-8.30pm	Church Barn
Storm Martial Arts	7.00-8.00pm	Pavilion
Saturday		
Pregnancy Yoga	9.30am	Village Hall
Bedford Ballet	9.30-11.40am	Church Barn
Oakley Football	9.00am-12.30pm	Pavilion Field
Socatots	9.45-11.15am	Pavilion
Lucy Hunt School of Dance	2.00-3.30pm	Pavilion
Toddler Sense	2.00-3.00pm (last of the month)	Church Barn
Sunday		
St James's Explorers	10.00-11.00am	Church Barn
St James's coffees	11.00am-12noon	Church Barn
Taekwondo	11.30am	Village Hall
No Fear Bridge	5.30-8.30pm	Village Hall
Revive	7.00-8.00pm (3 rd in month)	Church Barn

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

October

- Sun 2 Oct **All Age Worship at All Saints, 10.00am**
All Age Worship at St James's, 10.00am
Holy Communion at All Saints, 11.15am
- Tue 4 Oct Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p16
- Fri 7 Oct First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p18
- Sun 9 Oct **Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am**
Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am
Evening Prayer at St James's, 6.00pm
- Sun 9 Oct Harvest Festival, Church Barn, 3.30-5.00pm, see p3
- Sun 16 Oct **Holy Communion at All Saints, 10.00am**
Morning Worship at St James's, 10.00am
Revive: Coffee/Bible/Fellowship, Church Barn, 7.00pm
- Tue 18 Oct Café B, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am, see p14
- Tue 18 Oct Biddenham Gardeners Association, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.30pm, see pp3 & 17
- Tue 18 Oct Biddenham Parish Council, Pavilion, 7.30pm, see p10
- Sun 23 Oct **Said Holy Communion at All Saints, 9.00am**
Holy Communion at St James's, 10.00am
Explorers, Church Barn, 10.00am
- Mon 24 Oct Biddenham History Society, Church Barn, 2.30pm, see p14
- Fri 28 Oct Quilting & Sewing Group, Biddenham Village Hall, 10.30am, see p18
- Sun 30 Oct **Service of Wholeness & Healing at St James's, 10.00am**
Choral Evensong at St James's, 6.00pm

November

- Tue 1 Nov Peter's Picture House, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.00pm, see p16
- Thu 3 Nov Biddenham Village Hall AGM, 8.00pm, see p10
- Fri 4 Nov First Friday lunch, Biddenham Village Hall, 12.15pm, see p18
- Sat 5 Nov Village Quiz, Biddenham Village Hall, 7.15pm, see p9
- Sun 6 Nov Biddenham Society AGM, Biddenham Village Hall, 12 noon, see p5
- Sat 12 Nov Pond Work Morning, 10.00am, see p14

December

- Sat 3 Dec Heart & Music, St James's Church, 3.00pm, see p13

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 19

The Loop

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All November 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 19th October 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.