



# Biggleswade Community News

DECEMBER 2022



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Copies are available from Newsagents, Community Centres, Town Hall, Library, Churches and cafes.

Also delivered by Biggleswade Good Neighbours to their clients and volunteers.

You can read it online at [www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk](http://www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk)

**Adverts from £15 per edition. Enquiries to 07988 822678**



**Stratton School** is preparing a bid to the Football Association to expand footballing facilities at the school. A recent statement from the FA stated that Biggleswade had one of the least provisions for football in the country.

**Ivel Sprinter** is pleased to announce that they have now taken possession of a second 16 seater airconditioned minibus, which will allow to make more seats available for their Wednesday journeys to Cambridge at a cost of £6 single or £7.70 return. The charity also takes passengers to St Neots on a Thursday, at a cost of £5.30 single or £6.75 return with a 2 hour stay in that town.

Telephone 01767 261047 or email [webmanager@ivelsprinter.org.uk](mailto:webmanager@ivelsprinter.org.uk) for more details or visit [www.ivelsprinter.org.uk](http://www.ivelsprinter.org.uk) For private hire ring 07748 088493 or email [hire.manager@ivelsprinter.org.uk](mailto:hire.manager@ivelsprinter.org.uk)



**Biggleswade Scout Group** are extremely grateful to 8 staff from UK Power Networks and Morrison Energy Services, who are involved in the new Biggleswade Substation, for volunteering for a



maintenance day at the Scout HQ. They did a number of jobs including: trimming the hedge, weeding the paths, cutting the grass, painting the gates, putting wood

preserver on the fences, painting some of the internal doors, and tidying up the games equipment...and it's looking good!

Trinity Methodist Church,  
Shortmead Street, Biggleswade

*'A Taste of Christmas'*

*Seasonal Soups,  
Sandwiches  
& Cake  
with Tea or Coffee  
A Seasonal Thought  
Rev Leslie Noon*

*Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 12 noon*

*By Ticket only  
Tickets £7.50*

*Available from  
Biggleswade Express  
Shortmead Street  
or ring 01767 261305*

## The BIG Christmas Show @ The Weatherley Centre, Biggleswade



**Stars LARRY DEAN,  
FINLAY CHRISTIE  
& JOSHUA  
ROBERTSON!**

**SATURDAY DEC 3<sup>RD</sup>  
visit Castle Comedy's  
website for tickets.**

from 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

buses around  
**Biggleswade**

connections from  
**Bedford  
Sandy  
Potton  
Flitwick**

Includes services from  
**Grant Palmer  
Herberts Travel**

There are further changes to  
local bus routes 72 and 73.  
Timetables are available from  
Cafe Mocha or the library,

## **BIGGLESWADE COMMUNITY GROUP - The Way Forward**

Until now we have been a very small team  
and this needs to change to deliver our  
vision for the community.

Our priority right now is to build a working  
group to continue to produce this  
newsletter. We are looking for reporters  
who can send us items about local  
community organisations or initiatives. Is  
that something for you or someone you  
know?

If you are interested in learning more  
about how you could help email  
[enquire@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk](mailto:enquire@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk)  
or phone Alan on 01767 310163

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 1

**7pm:** East Bedfordshire Chamber Choir, Christmas Carol Concert followed by refreshments at St Andrew's Church.

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 4

**4pm:** Circuit Advent Service followed by refreshments at Trinity Methodist Church

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 11

**10-30am:** Annual Gift Service (vouchers requested for Womens Refuge) at Trinity Methodist Church

**6pm - 7pm:** Candlelit Carol Service followed by mince pies and mulled wine at Newlife Church in Edward Peake School.

### WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14

**7.30pm:** Carols for Remembrance, followed by refreshments in Chapter House (hosted by Woodmans' Funeral Directors) at St Andrew's Church

### SATURDAY DECEMBER 17

**10.30am - 12.30pm:** Nativity Tableaux, Market Square.

**10.30am** Christmas Messy Church - Families Welcome at Trinity Methodist Church

**7.30pm:** Biggleswade Choral Society Concert at St Andrew's Church

### SUNDAY DECEMBER 18

**10.30am:** 'Jesus the Light of the World ' Morning Worship at Trinity Methodist Church

**10.30am:** 'Off the cuff Christmas' Sunday Club Special. at the Baptist Church

**6pm:** Carol Service led by Rev Leslie Noon - followed by drinks & mince pies at Trinity Methodist Church

**6pm:** Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Andrew's Church

**6.30pm:** Carols by Candlelight at the Baptist Church

## **TUESDAY DECEMBER 20**

**6pm:** "Carols on the Lawn", with mulled wine, and seasonal refreshments at St Andrew's

## **CHRISTMAS EVE: SATURDAY DECEMBER 24**

**6pm:** Crib Service at St Andrew's Church

**6pm:** Children's Mass at St Peters

**7pm:** Christmas Eve Communion - Rev Leslie Noon - followed by drinks & mince pies at Trinity Methodist Church

**10pm:** Early Midnight Mass at St Peters

**11.30pm:** Midnight Mass at St Andrew's Church

## **CHRISTMAS DAY: SUNDAY DECEMBER 25**

**10am:** Parish Communion at St Andrew's

**10am:** Christmas Day Worship - Liz Little  
at Trinity Methodist Church

**10am:** All Age Christmas Day service at the Baptist Church

**11am:** Christmas Mass at St Peters

**2023**

## **SUNDAY 1 JANUARY**

**10.30:** All Age family service at the Baptist Church

## **SUNDAY 8 JANUARY**

**8am:** Holy Communion – Order Two Traditional Worship  
at St Andrew's Church

## **SUNDAY 8 JANUARY**

**10am:** Epiphany Family Holy Communion at St Andrew's Church

## **SUNDAY 29 JANUARY**

**3 pm:** Christingle at St Andrew's Church





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



In line with the current planting season, (October 2022 to March 2023), the initial Tiny Forest project in our area is at Caldecote Church of England Academy school,

Royal Mail has announced that regular stamps without a barcode cannot be used past January 31st.



After that date non-barcoded stamps can be swapped for new ones.

## WARM SPACES

Here are some **Biggleswade Locations that are supporting this initiative**

**Labour Hall**, Crab Lane, Biggleswade. Monday 10am - 2pm; Thursday 5pm - 9pm; Saturday 10am - 2pm. Contact: [labourhall@gmail.com](mailto:labourhall@gmail.com)

**Kings Corner**, 6 Britten Place, Sullivan Court, Biggleswade. Tuesday 10am - 1pm; Thursday 10am - 1pm. Use Facebook messenger to contact King's Corner or email [mike@bbchurch.org.uk](mailto:mike@bbchurch.org.uk)

**Krafty Shed**, Unit 4, Purcell Pl, Sullivan Court, Biggleswade. Wednesday 9am - 5pm email: [hello@kraftyshed.co.uk](mailto:hello@kraftyshed.co.uk)

**St Andrews Church**, Shortmead St, Biggleswade. Thursday 10.30am - 3pm; Saturday 10.30am - 3pm. Call 01767 317207 or email: [office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk](mailto:office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk)

**Baptist Church**, Rooms 3 & 4, 24 London Rd, Biggleswade. Friday 2pm - 6pm. Use Facebook messenger to contact Biggleswade Baptist Church.

**Biggleswade Library**, Chestnut Avenue, Tuesday to Friday 9am - 6pm; Saturday 9am - 4pm; Call: 0300 300 8055.

**Saxon Leisure Centre**, Saxon Drive, Biggleswade. Monday to Friday 6am - 10pm; Saturday 7.30am - 9pm; Sunday 7am - 9pm Call: 01767433133 or email [enquiries.saxon@slc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries.saxon@slc.co.uk)

## PROPOSAL TO CHANGE BIGGLESWADE AREA SCHOOLS FROM 3 TIER TO 2 TIER.

Central  
Bedfordshire

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> a meeting took place at the Weatherley Centre at which Central Bedfordshire Council presented their proposals to change to 2 tier schooling in our local schools. This follows a consultation last year which was inconclusive.

However, since that consultation, the building of a new primary school on the proposed Garden Village development, will not now take place as the developers have gone into receivership. S.106 development monies from that site were to contribute towards both the primary school and a new secondary school on a nearby site, but, again, this will no longer happen. It is now proposed that the earmarked site will be used to build a new SEND school.

The new proposals are now to transfer Edward Peake school, in Potton Road, into a secondary school, along with Stratton School in Eagle Farm Road. All the other schools in the area will become primary schools and both the Wrestlingworth and Dunton Schools will become primary schools too. Academy schools are holding their own additional consultations.



Central Bedfordshire Council are consulting on their draft Parking Standards for New Developments Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), and want to hear your views on parking standards, including the number of parking spaces for new residential and commercial developments. The document covers cycle parking, car parking, disabled parking, powered-two-wheeler parking and operational parking requirements.

You can have your say on the proposed standards until Thursday 5 January 2023 on our website. Alternatively, responses can also be sent by email to [strategic.transport@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:strategic.transport@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) or by post to:

Strategic Transport, C/O Strategic Growth, Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Beds, SG17 5TQ

Copies of the strategy document are available in our libraries.

## A LITTLE HELP



Administered by BedsRCC, Timebanking is the Bedfordshire Good Neighbour scheme that lets you offer and receive support in many different ways, such as gardening, IT, housework, simple DIY, etc. Almost any kind of help can be offered and by anyone. For each hour you give, you get something back with an hour's help from others. It is fun and it is free.

Timebanking is a free exchange of time and skills. 'time-credits' are earned and can be exchanged for an hour of help for yourself.

Contact BedsRCC on 01234 838771 or by email at [info@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:info@bedsrcc.org.uk) or visit their

website at [www.bedsrcc.org.uk](http://www.bedsrcc.org.uk) or write to them at The Old School, Cardington, Bedfordd, MK443SX.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the Department of Transport announced that they would cap all bus fares in England at £2 per journey at a cost of £60m. With the average bus journey costing £2.80 for a three mile journey, this will save each passenger a minimum of 30% each way. The scheme will start in January 2023 and run until March.



Anyone who is eligible will be contacted but a full list of who is eligible for support and how to apply for a grant is available here: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/HSQ](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/HSQ)