



Biggleswade Community News

JUNE 2023



Email: editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk Tel: 01767 310163



Biggleswade Community Carnival

Events Programme

Duck race 11th June Dan Albone car park from 12noon

Darts tournament 12th June Biggleswade Social Club

Party night with Helen Lester Vocals 15th June Biggleswade Social Club

Parade day 17th June starting from the Weatherley Centre and ending at Biggleswade United Football Club

Bingo 20th June Biggleswade Social Club

Touch rugby 24th June Biggleswade Rugby Club

Children's Disco 25th June 2-4pm Biggleswade Social Club

Grand Draw 25th June

Please support us, and attend as many events as you can. Without your support these events can't and won't continue.

Published by Biggleswade Community Group 01767 310163

Email: admin@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk

Copies are available from Newsagents, Community Centres, Town Hall, Library, Churches and cafes. Also delivered by Biggleswade Good Neighbours to their clients and volunteers. Or you can read it online at www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk



Contact them on 07771 104255

Or via biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com

Notes from the AGM on Thursday 18th May

Since our last AGM, we have received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS). Erica and I have attended a Buckingham Palace Garden Party as a result. If a volunteer would still like a QAVS badge or certificate, please let us know. We held our first coffee morning since the pandemic. It was great to see people out and together again and we hope to do more in the future, and our first market stall with tombola. Another development is that we have partnered with Biggleswade Community Group on distribution of the Community Newsletter.

During each quarter of 2022 around 66 different volunteers helped 74 individual clients. This makes for a total of 1742 tasks for the year, which includes befriending (although this is under-recorded). Each one of those tasks has made a positive difference to two lives, as the volunteer feels better for helping a fellow human being in need.

We are looking for more volunteers who are able to be a phoneholder and / or provide lifts. Phoneholders play a vital role in Biggleswade and it is a great way to connect with people. For existing volunteers, please consider joining one of our WhatsApp groups. These are dedicated to specific tasks and help us more efficiently match volunteers with tasks.

Thank you to every volunteer who has carried out any task this year. A particular thank you to the small group of phoneholders, without whom BGN couldn't function, Nichola (who organises our phone rota), our newsletter deliverers, the steering group, Gerri (who now does DBS checks for us), Jane (who collates phone befriending data), Eva (who reports on our activities for BRCC every three months), and of course, Lucy, who is stepping down as our secretary. We are also thankful for all of the funding we have received over the past year, both from the Town Council and donations.

These help us to cover our running costs. We can also accept donations via www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/biggleswadegoodneighbours

We would also like to thank and remember Amanda Cawthorn, who recently died and will be missed by many in the town. She designed our new website www.biggleswadegoodneighbours.co.uk - please do check it out and share it widely.

Elected to posts at the meeting were: John Robertson – Chair Erica Seruset Borgstrom – Deputy Chair Wendy Presland – Secretary Chris Mattingley – Treasurer



Ivel Valley College, Contact Dean Hawkins -
dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk - 01767 512080

Ivel Valley School and College is a 3-19 special school serving Central Bedfordshire and beyond. Being a part of the Biggleswade community is an extremely important part of who we are as a school.

You might have seen our pupils around town, or representing the school and college at a variety of events including Remembrance Day and the town centre Christmas concert.

We're very grateful to be part of such a welcoming and inclusive community and are keen to seek local groups to form community relationships with.

Please get in touch with : Dean Hawkins, Careers & Community Practitioner - 01767 512080 or email: dean.hawkins @ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk.



Future Action Biggleswade

fab@fabweb.org.uk www.fabweb.org.uk

Notes from the AGM on Wednesday 19th April

During the last year activities included:

- o A talk to Biggleswade Rotary Club, Tuesday 17th May 2022
- o A display at St. Andrew's Country Fayre, Saturday 17th September 2022
- o An event in Biggleswade Market Square for Great Big Green Week Sunday 25th September 2022
- o Fairtrade Fortnight Market Stall and launch of "Thoughtful Shopper Guide", Saturday 4th March 2023
- o Another significant event during the past year was FAB's success in becoming one of the organisations chosen for the Co-op's Community Fund for 2022-23.

On Sunday 11th June FAB will be promoting Great Big Green Week, with stalls at the Carnival Duck Race.



Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club

We hold 2 meetings a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, starting at 8pm in the Sea Cadets HQ, Station Road, Biggleswade. The 2nd meeting of the month is our Speakers night. We have arranged an interesting variety of topics with experienced speakers in their field. These talks are free to attend, access is disabled friendly and refreshments are available. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact us, either through Facebook or call / message Karen on 07943 940021. We look forward to meeting you.

21st JUNE St. John's Hospice

Come and find out about the great work carried out at Sue Ryder's St John's Hospice in Moggerhanger which provides expert care for those with life-limiting conditions. Hospice care is the treatment and support offered to people with life limiting conditions, combining specialist medical care for managing pain and other symptoms along with emotional, practical and spiritual support. They also have a palliative care at-home service. At St. John's Hospice the expert team of doctors, nurses, physios, occupational therapists, nursing assistants and a family support team work together to support people through the most difficult times of their lives.

Spreading the word If you are involved with a Community Group or initiative, please let us have your updates and we will publish them if space permits and we receive them in good time.

If you are a local small business we may be able to help you with a news update in Biggleswade Community News for a small donation.

If you need advice about publishing your Group's information online via the Web or Social Media, contact WebmanAlan on 01767 310163 for a chat. Without obligation!

ABOUT THE TOWN



Duck Race & Community Fete Sunday 11th June 2023 12pm – 4pm

Join us in the Dan Albone car park in Shortmead Street, down by the river from 12 noon. There's lots of family fun with a performance from the Shannon Express choir at 12.45 and demonstrations from Biggleswade Fire Brigade.

Learn about our history with Biggleswade History Society. Bring your picnic blanket and get some lunch from one of our food & drink stalls. Harris' mini fair will be there to entertain the little ones, or visit one of the carnival volunteer stalls of crafts, glitter tattoos, sweets, mini disco, colouring competition, tombola, games and activities for everyone with all proceeds raised from these stalls going to carnival charities.

Visit Biggleswade's Great Big Green Week event by FAB (Future Action Biggleswade). Come along and discover how local organisations are taking action against climate change and how you can help.

Duck sales open on the day at 12 noon with the first of 5 races at 2pm. £1 per duck with 1st place £25 2nd place 15 3rd place £10.

Please note the Car park will be closed from 7am and please avoid parking in Royal Oak Close. Toilets are located at the Cricket club or Sainsbury's. In the event the River is too high for the event to go ahead as planned the provisional alternative date is Sunday 2nd July, fingers crossed for good weather!



Soon 36 High Street will be home to a dynamic, multi-use arts space complete with cafe/bar with wheelchair access. The BIGG



Theatre will play host to theatre, cinema, comedy, music & so much more, for the whole community to benefit.

Have you noticed the totem pole-like structure that has appeared by the new station interchange. The 'needle' was designed and made by artist Tim Ward and depicts the history of Biggleswade from the base upwards.



WHAT'S ON



Join us for an evening of theatrical delight in an Open air setting, where dreams and reality intertwine, and the lines between magic and love blur.

Immerse yourself in the whimsical realm of Athens, where love-struck youths, mischievous fairies, and bumbling actors collide in a hilarious tale. With its captivating blend of comedy, romance, and otherworldly elements, Please come equipped for the British Summer Weather!!

TICKETS FROM

www.ticketsource.co.uk/bats

Tai Chi in Biggleswade



at the The Weatherley Centre
Wednesdays at 2pm
www.sheffordtaichi.org

Tai Chi classes started earlier this year at the Weatherley Centre – aimed at people seeking to learn Tai Chi for health as a continuing support in their lives.

This is a weekly drop-in class on Wednesdays from 2.00 to 3.00pm which already has a core of established regular students.

Contact Ian Deavin
on 07860 218334 and See
www.sheffordtaichi.org/classes/classes-in-biggleswade/
for further details.

If you are planning an event in Biggleswade or nearby tell us about it so that we can tell others!

There is a **Biggleswade Good Neighbours** social event for volunteers from 7.30 pm on Friday 23rd June at the Sea Cadets' Hall on Station Road. Volunteers are invited to bring along their favourite (short!) board game.

Thursday 8th June 2-4pm

Come and enjoy Strawberry Cream Teas

Trinity Methodist Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade

£5 per person

All proceeds go to Bedford & District Cerebral Palsy Society



Summer Fun with DRA & Friends!
Saturday 24th June 2023
12-4pm

Dunton Recreation Ground,
Horseshoe Close,
Dunton,
SG18 8RY
Contact 07714209013

Something for everyone... **Plate**
smashing, Bouncy castle, Cream Teas,
Bar, Stalls, Raffle, Jo's Ices,
Entertainment, Creme Catering, Music,
Games, Car boot stalls and much much
more!

Carboot pitches available at £5 per car. Please book in advance to secure your spot!



Please note, some stalls are cash only!

Pitches available for stalls, £20 per stall, please pre book.
Contact 07714209013 or email duntonrecreation@gmail.com

Free Entry and Dogs on Leads welcome!



Events in Southill

'The Friends of All Saints Southill' present a Rock Choir Concert at Southill Park Cricket Ground on Friday 23rd June. Gates open 6pm. There will be a bar, hot dog stall and ice cream van or bring your own picnic and drinks. Tickets are £10 for adults and £2 for under 15's. Contact 01767 318117 or 01462 811927.

A LITTLE HELP



Police Engagements - Biggleswade & Surrounding Areas

Here is a list of community engagement events, conducted by your local Community Policing Team.

Most events are mobile where we will be walking around the villages along with static events in Biggleswade.

Come and speak to us with any concerns or queries you may have and If you have a dog, please bring them with you.

Saturday 3rd June:

Biggleswade, Market Square: 10:00-11:30

Southill: 12:30-13:05

Broom: 13:10-13:50

Upper Caldecote: 14:00-14:45

Sunday 4th June:

Langford: 12:00-13:00

Dunton: 13:15-14:00

Northill: 14:15-15:00

Ickwell: 15:00-15:30

Friday 16th June:

Biggleswade Retail Park: 10:30-12:00

Tuesday 20th June:

Biggleswade, Market Square: 10:00-11:30

Saturday 1st July:

Biggleswade, Market Square: 10:00-11:30

Upper Caldecote: 13:00-13:45

Langford: 14:00-14:45