



Biggleswade Community News

AUGUST 2023



Email: editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk Tel: 01767 310163



Biggleswade
Fire Fighters
raising money
for charity

Local Shop
under new
management.



Exciting Announcement
**TAKEN OVER BY
STAIRWAY**

A vacant shop put to
good use as a box
office for Stairway



Bikes for Hire

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

Updates From Our Partners



Ivel Valley College Contact Dean Hawkins - dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk - 01767 512080
Our students have been distributing newsletters to pickup points around the town.



Future Action Biggleswade fab@fabweb.org.uk
www.fabweb.org.uk We are planning to be at St Andrew's Country Fayre promoting Fairtrade Fortnight.



Biggleswade Good Neighbours

Contact them on 07771 104255

Or via biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com

We are always looking for more volunteers to join us. If you enjoy helping people and are willing to do any of the sort of things you might do for your next door neighbour, such as befriending, gardening, shopping, prescription collections etc, we would pleased to hear from you on 07771 104255 or biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com.

We are particularly keen to find more volunteers to help with lifts within the immediate area of Biggleswade and with answering the phone and finding volunteers for jobs. Beds RCC are providing a couple of online training sessions for phone holders this month, so if you would like to take part in one of these, please send us your email address or phone us and we will send you full details.

Finally we are taking part in a couple of events, details on page 6.



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 a Speakers night. The talks are free to attend, access is disabled friendly and refreshments are available. Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact us, through Facebook or call or message Karen on 07943 940021. We look forward to meeting you.




Biggleswade History Society

Meet in the Methodist Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade. Doors open 7.30 for 8 pm start, BHS members free, Non-members £4. biggleswadehistory.org.uk


Monday 7th August - Members' Memories For this special meeting members are asked to share their memories of Biggleswade past. The archives team will also have a selection of artefacts and photos to talk about. Whether you want to reminisce about your favourite local pub or event, summers spent at the outdoor pool or a local business or resident that meant a lot to you, come along and share your stories.

Monday 4th September - Jean Duivenvoorden- "Notes and Lines: 100 years of the Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama, 1921-2021". The Bedfordshire Festival is a huge part of the county's cultural calendar and is one of the oldest and most prestigious in the country and has a fascinating history. Jean's talk is based on her book of the same title and copies will be for sale at the special price of £10.

<https://www.shannonexpress.org.uk/>



SHANNON EXPRESS



CHORUS

SCAN FOR DETAILS OF OUR LATEST PUBLIC EVENTS

MEN SINGING WELL

BIGGLESWADE'S OWN BARBERSHOP CHORUS

STRATTON SCHOOL,
THURSDAYS

QUALITY ACAPELLA SINGING FOR FUN, COMPETITION AND CHARITY FUNDRAISING

We meet on Thursdays at Stratton School 7.30-10pm and sometimes sing in the White Hart afterwards. We like to sing to community organisations as well as at events and welcome enquiries. Our Musical Director is Ryan Meekings who also works as a teacher. We would love to see you all soon at a concert or event.

We sing acapella, four-part harmony and memorise our individual parts to sing and blend together. If you can hold a tune and love to harmonise come along to see us. We'll be holding a taster course from 14th September 2023 and will have details on our website nearer the time.

ABOUT THE TOWN



Biggleswade Town Council manages three tennis courts. They can be accessed from Drove

Road with ample on-site parking. Walk-in access is from Glebe Road.

Summer opening times (1st April to 30th September): Monday to Sunday 10:00am to 8:00pm The courts are to be vacated by 7:45 pm

Please note that each session should be only 1 hour 30 minutes if there are other players waiting for the courts. There are no toilet facilities at the tennis courts. Online court bookings click here.

Tel: 01767 313134

enquiries@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk

Announcement

Hello Biggleswade!, We're the newest barbershop to the area!



Chamomile Gardens,
Cardamom Street,
Biggleswade SG18 8YZ

Book your appointment via booksy.com

or check our website theouthousebarbershop.co.uk

Make sure to sign up to our newsletter for 20% off your first appointment! Take a seat...

Make our journey your journey.

We're bringing great quality to Biggleswade!

Make our journey your journey with a role at our brand new Bidfood site in your area.

Visit us at bidfood.co.uk/careers or scan the QR code to find out more.

You can now hire a bicycle at any of 5 locations around Biggleswade and pay via a mobile phone. For details see bedsrcc.org.uk



BIGGLESWADE COMMUNITY GARDENS



SUMMER EVENTS AT NORTHFIELDS



KIDS SHED PAINTING MONDAY 28TH AUGUST 10AM



Bring your kids and come and help us decorate our new garden shed at Northfields Community Centre we'll be painting a garden themed mural.

Refreshments will be provided. There'll be a BBQ and open day in the afternoon. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Grown-ups welcome too!



COMMUNITY GARDEN OPEN DAY AND BBQ MONDAY 28TH AUGUST 1PM



Grab a burger and a plant at our open day BBQ, and plant swap. Bring your own drinks and we'll provide the food. There will be a plant and seed swap and activities for children. children must be accompanied by an adult.

Biggleswade Fire Station Open Day is on Saturday 2nd September, 10am - 2pm. All welcome, free entry. Go along and meet firefighters and other Fire Service staff (and volunteers hopefully!)

Biggleswade Fire Engine Pull: can finally happen again! They need Biggleswade to come out and support them on the day. They are raising money for the Fire Fighter's Charity on 1st October 2023

WHAT'S ON



With the summer holidays rapidly approaching Biggleswade Good Neighbours will be involved in some exciting activities. (See page 5). These tend to get coverage in the local media, so if you fancy getting your picture in the paper why not come along and volunteer?

Monday 28 August: We will be helping out at the Biggleswade Community Gardens Open Day and conducting a litter pick from 11.00. It would be great to get as many volunteers involved as possible; equipment and refreshments are provided – just turn up! Please see page 5 for details. It starts with a shed-painting event for kids at 10.00 and culminates with a BBQ at 13.00.

Saturday 2 September: We will have our usual cake stall at the Fire Station Open Day, 10.00 to 14.00, which is a cracking day out with lots of fun activities for young and old! If anyone would like to bake cakes for the stall then please do let us know – any contributions are always gratefully received!

COME TO DUNTON RECREATION GROUND ON SATURDAY 12th AUGUST between 2 and 6pm FOR A FAMILY BBQ

As well as the usual facilities of the playing field, with plenty of space to run around and a children's play area, the licensed bar will be open, plus a choice of hot food. So don't bother eating beforehand. Arrive hungry! There is indoor and outdoor seating. We also plan to have children's activities and live music so come prepared to relax and stay for the afternoon. Invite your family and friends, All welcome including dogs on a lead.

If you have not seen our recreation ground you may be surprised. From Biggleswade take two left turns opposite the pub and it is in Horseshoe Close, SG18 8RY. Parking is available.

ALSO A CAR BOOT SALE On the last Saturday of each month. Sellers welcome from 1pm Car £5, Car & trailer £7, Van £10
Buyers welcome from 2pm. Free entry.

WARDEN ABBEY



The Community Vineyard

www.wardenvineyard.org.uk

Open Day and Wine Sale with local food and crafts at Warden Abbey Vineyard, near Old Warden - Sunday 10th September, 11am- 4pm

Join us for our main event of the year! Come along to our Open Day on Sunday 10th September for a fun day of activities including a petting farm, wine tasting, food and craft stalls, and more. Book a tour or take a self-guided tour to find out the story of the medieval vineyard and abbey, why and how the monks made wine, and how volunteers care for the vines all year round. The vineyard is run as a community and education project by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity.

See

www.wardenvineyard.org.uk

for tickets and directions. Advance booking for entry and tours is recommended. Entry: Adults £4 online, £5 on day. Children under 16 free. Guided tours £5, self-guided tours free.



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

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.

A LITTLE HELP



COMMUNITY AGENT

Julie Balaam

Helping residents of Biggleswade access information and services.

Free, confidential advice at your doorstep.

JULIE.BALAAM@BEDSRCC.ORG.UK

FOR MEN TO TALK ... AND WALK

SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 2023 9.15am

FAMILY AND FRIENDS EDITION

JONES'

15 High Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0JE

It's ok for men to have a mental health illness It's that **BLACK & WHITE**

A chance for men suffering with anxiety, depression & grief to talk with other fellow sufferers

www.formentotalk.co.uk

f i+ t p in

At 'For Men to Talk', we believe in the power of open conversations, camaraderie and the therapeutic benefits of walking. We are excited to announce a special edition of our 'For Men to Talk... and Walk' event that goes beyond the usual format

On Sunday 13 August we invite not only men but also their families and friends to come together for an enriching and memorable experience. So why not join us as we embark on a beautiful walk along the Biggleswade Green Wheel Route. Starting from Jones' Café Bar, we will set off promptly at 9.30am <https://formentotalk.co.uk>