

## NEED A LITTLE HELP?



### I CARE HOME SUPPORT

*Committed to Care  
for a Quality of Life*

iCare covers Biggleswade, Potton, Sandy, Gamlingay and surrounding areas. My aim is to provide a local Companionship and Home Support service to help individuals stay independent in their own home, including:

**Sitting and Befriending Service  
Respite for Family Care Givers  
Personal Care & Daily Home Support**

I am fully DBS checked with business insurance and own transport with D Licence. Phone Kelly on 07812 746939 or email me at

[icarehs@hotmail.com](mailto:icarehs@hotmail.com)

### IVEL BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICE

Are you recently bereaved?  
Have you been struggling with coming to terms with your loss?  
Would it help to talk to someone?  
For more information telephone

**07704 734225**

(Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm)  
And speak to one of our

**Bereavement Support Volunteers**



Free and Confidential  
(Donations Welcomed)

*Sharing your loss can  
make the burden of grief  
easier to manage*

**Please don't grieve alone**



## Biggleswade Community News

NOVEMBER 2021



Email: [editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk](mailto:editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk) Tel: 01767 448954

## BIGGLESWADE WELLBEING WALKS

**Regular walks for beginners and those looking to improve**

**Mondays at 10:00 am** Walks of approx. 30-40mins. Meet: by the Notice Board on Beeston Green near The Crescent, Beeston, SG19 1PL.

**Wednesdays at 10.00am** Walks of approx. 30-40mins and 60 - 90 mins. Meet: Dan Albone Car Park, Shortmead Street, SG18 0BQ

With the opportunity to stop for tea or coffee after the walk

**Thursdays at 10.00am** Walks of approx. 30-40mins and 60 - 90 mins. Meet: Stratton School, Eagle Farm Road, SG18 8JB

**NO NEED TO BOOK** - just turn up, why not try them all?

**For those looking to do a serious walk of 5 miles plus: Tuesday afternoon** at Time tba. Booking essential. Walking with Janette: approx. 90 mins. Start points vary - phone for details.

**For further information please contact:**

**Janette Sibley:** Tel: 07771 54 0117 e-mail: [janette@sibley.me.uk](mailto:janette@sibley.me.uk)

**Mike Fayers:** Bedfordshire Health Walks Manager Tel: 01234 832619, email: [mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk)

The Biggleswade branch of The Royal British Legion and Biggleswade Town Council extend a cordial invitation to the residents of Biggleswade to attend the

**BIGGLESWADE  
REMEMBRANCE DAY  
PARADE AND SERVICE**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
10.45 am  
War Memorial  
Biggleswade Market Square

*Lest We Forget*

EVERY POPPY COUNTS

The Biggleswade branch of The Royal British Legion and Biggleswade Town Council invite local residents to attend the service on Sunday, 14th November 2021 at 10:45am in the Market Square.

There will be a full parade proceeding from the Sea Cadets HQ on Station Road to the Market Square War Memorial.

**Published by Biggleswade Community Group** tel: 01767 310163

Copies are available from Newsagents, Community Centres, Town Hall, Library, Churches and Eateries. Also online at

[www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk](http://www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk)

**Free of charge but donations towards costs are welcomed.**

**REMEMBER – if you can't access the internet,  
ring us on 01767 448954 and we will try to assist.**

# KRAFTY SHED

Pottery Painting and Arts & Crafts Studio, Handcrafted Keepsakes, Unique & Personalised Gifts

*Krafty Shed is a family and pet friendly pottery painting and arts & crafts studio in Kings Reach, Biggleswade. We have lots of activities to choose from and a wide selection of beautiful keepsakes and personalised gifts. Our prices start from £5 and include all equipment and resources required to complete your project, and we do not charge any additional studio fee.*

*We also serve tea, coffee & soft drinks*

Unit 4 Purcell Place, Sullivan Court  
Biggleswade SG18 8SX

www.kraftyshed.co.uk  
01767 316 300

### **BIGGLESWADE GOOD NEIGHBOURS – A GOOD NEWS STORY**

At their AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> October BGN Chairman, John Robertson announced an increase in client and volunteer numbers. Before Covid lockdowns they had 91 volunteers and 273 clients. Post lockdowns that has risen to 199 volunteers and 606 clients! All receiving hand delivered copies of this newsletter. Between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021, there were 3877 recorded client activities, equating to 215 per month. Good news indeed!



THE PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

**The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC)** is a tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. It will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of the Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, the Mayor, Cllr. Madeline Russell, was invited to the launch of the local campaign for Central Bedfordshire which was held, appropriately, at Jubilee Wood – the wood that was planted to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and which will now be extended.

The first tree was planted by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Bedfordshire, Helen Nellis. Cllr. Richard Wenham, Leader of Central Bedfordshire Council, and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Grant Fage, planted trees on behalf of our respective councils. Also present were Deputy Lieutenant Rod Calvert who is co-ordinating the initiative for Bedfordshire and Cllr Steve Dixon, the CBC lead for Sustainability.

### **Shuttleworth in Lights - A Festive Special.**

Share an after-dark adventure with your friends and family. This year the illuminated trail will take on a festive twist! With a bevvy of wonderful Christmas and festive elements to find along your walk as you discover an enchanting world of light and colour.

Start the adventure at the world famous Shuttleworth Collection Hangars, from there enter the Swiss Garden, head into the Paddock for a special display, re-join the route at the Shrubbery walk, pop past the Summer House, then stroll down the wonderful Lakeside Parkland and back into the Swiss Garden, finishing with a visit to the Gift Shop and Runway Café.

The 1.2 mile trail should take about 1 - 2 hours depending on your speed, but there are two shortcuts if required, making the route either 0.8 mile or 1 mile. For further information, please visit:

[www.shuttleworth.org/shuttleworth-in-lights](http://www.shuttleworth.org/shuttleworth-in-lights)



Brought to us by the Biggleswade Traders. Let's Support them and enjoy a day out in our town!





**CASTLE COMEDY RETURNS TO THE WEATHERLEY CENTRE**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December admission from 7.00pm. Show from 8.00pm to 10.45

Following a successful first event at its new venue, Castle Comedy presents its Big Christmas Show at the Weatherley Centre, It will feature 3 headline quality acts and be the ultimate festive night out! Tickets available from [www.wegotickets.com/event/524372](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/524372)

ZOE LYONS: who has appeared on Mock the Week and Live at the Apollo. With a mixture of silliness, satire and caustic one liners she is one of the UK's favourite comedians. LUKE TOULSON: a Perrier Comedy Award Nominee and Castle Comedy favourite! NIK COPPIN: has developed a cult following around the world's comedy festivals due to his feel good comedy!



**ANTIQUES FAIRS AT WEATHERLEY CENTRE** 9am to 4pm

on Sundays 21<sup>st</sup> November and 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Under new management - please visit Marcel Fairs at <http://marcelfairs.co.uk/our-fairs> or phone 07887 648255.

There is ample car parking, with two entrances, Eagle Farm Road Stratton School entrance, and a rear entrance off Orchard Close. Café available. Step free access for wheelchairs and pushchairs.



**Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club (CIO)**

Christmas Dance 27<sup>th</sup> November in The Weatherley Centre 8pm to Midnight. Dancing to 'New Vintage Plus'

Tickets £25 includes Supper (Bar Available)

from Lion Ivor 01767 226 419 Or Lion Judi 01462 814 693



**IVEL FLIX COMMUNITY CINEMA**

**BIG SCREEN** entertainment in the Footprints Room at Trinity Methodist Church, Shortmead Street SG18 0AP. Doors open at 2.45pm - Film begins at 3pm. Admission is only £4.00 payable at the door. Free parking on site. Disabled access.

**Saturday 13 November: PETER RABBIT 2 (PG):** Beatrix Potter's creation has returned for a movie sequel that combines live-action humans and CGI bunnies.

**Saturday 11 December: The Sense of An Ending (PG-13)** A mystery drama film based on the 2011 novel of the same name by Julian Barnes. The film stars Jim Broadbent, Charlotte Rampling, Harriet Walter, Billy Howle, Emily Mortimer and Michelle Dockery.



**Biggleswade History Society** will meet on Monday 6 December at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm start, for a talk by David Fowler on "WW11, The Americans and Glen Miller" - including some "toe-tapping" music. We meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Shortmead Street. All are welcome.

Members subscription £7 per person (September - March inclusive), guests £3 per person.



**BIGGLESWADE EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Meetings are held at The Weatherley Centre at 7.45pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November there will be a Christmas Chocolate Demonstration – speaker Jane Napper, on making a decorated Christmas tree and how to temper chocolate. On the 9<sup>th</sup> December it will be Christmas Crafts, full details to be confirmed. To whet your appetite for the New Year, it will be Krav Maga Self Defence in January and the Palace of Westminster in February. Visitors welcome.

All year round there is a Scrabble Group, Art & Craft Group, Jigsaw swaps and Walking Groups. Members are encouraged to share their interests, knowledge and creativity.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

Now that we are out and about again, it is a good time to remind readers of some of the main areas for which our two Councils are responsible.



**Central Bedfordshire Council** is responsible for:

Amenity Areas (some), Archives, Benefits, Council Tax, Education, Environmental Services, Grants, Grass Cutting (highway etc), Highways, Industrial Estates, Libraries, Litter clearance, Planning, Recreation and Leisure, Refuse Collection, Recycling, Street Lighting, Social Services, Trading Standards, Traffic Management, Youth Services.



**Biggleswade Town Council** is responsible for Allotments, Burial Grounds, Car Parks, (Community Agent), Community Grants, Environmental Improvements, Events and Activities, Orchard Centre, Markets, Parks and Open Spaces, Play Areas (some), Public Conveniences.

### BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

You can still send in your comments on the Biggleswade Local Plan until 9am Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Visit

<https://biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk/biggleswade-neighbourhood-plan>

Or phone 01767 313134 for a paper copy.



### YOUNG PEOPLE – tell the Council what services you want

Central Bedfordshire's Youth Support Service has set up an online survey to find out young people's views on what activities and support is currently available to them and what they would like in the future.

We want to hear the views of as many young people as possible and would like your help to promote the Youth Offer survey to young people aged 12 to 18. Please Visit

<https://biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk/youth-support-service-survey/>

### COVID-19 UPDATE/VACCINATIONS

Booster vaccinations are being undertaken at the now closed Registry Office in London Road, next door to the Yorkshire Grey public house.

**Booster walk-in sessions** As long as you have proof that there has been at least six months (182 days) since your second vaccine, you can now walk in to get your COVID-19 booster vaccination. Frontline NHS volunteers can now self-refer for boosters at Vaccination Centres.

Please note that frontline, patient-facing volunteers are now eligible for a booster vaccination as they are classed as 'frontline healthcare workers'. This means they can self-declare and present themselves at vaccination centres, alongside other frontline healthcare workers.

### Who is eligible for the COVID-19 booster vaccine?

The following people should be offered a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in the same order as the first part of the vaccination programme:

- those living in residential care homes for older adults
- all adults aged 50 years or over
- frontline health and social care workers
- all those aged 16 to 49 years with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 (as set out in the green book), and adult carers
- adult household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals

COVID-19 cases are still running high in our area, with around 80 positive cases every week. Highest numbers are in the ages 10 to 19 but this is now moving upwards to include the older age brackets. However, deaths are still low and hospital bed occupancy has decreased but is now stable at around 30-35 patients over the two Bedford and Luton & Dunstable Hospitals.

**Christmas in The Market Square: Light switch on** Friday November 26; 4-8 pm **Saturday Market** with Santa's grotto from November 27. There will also be a **Christmas Light Show** on Friday and Saturday evenings.