

## A Little Help

### Biggleswade Wellbeing Hub

Our Wellbeing Hub is held fortnightly on Wednesdays, 10am - 1pm.

The next sessions are: 1st September and 25th September in Northfields Community Room, Biggleswade, SG18 0HD.

Join us for...

- Refreshments
- Crafts and board games
- Signposting to local services
- Coffee and a chat
- Pool table
- Book swap
- Bric a brac stall



**To find out more about the Biggleswade Wellbeing Hub email [deborah.taylor@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:deborah.taylor@bedsrcc.org.uk) or call 07951938237**

The venue is home to the Biggleswade Community Garden, so in warm weather you can sit outside and enjoy the garden.

### Julie Balaam is the Community Agent for Biggleswade



She was appointed to help residents access information and services. She works with residents, particularly those struggling with an issue or those who are feeling socially isolated. The service is free and confidential and can be received over the phone or by email or at a residents' home.

You can contact Julie on 07534 484750 or by email at [julie.balaam@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:julie.balaam@bedsrcc.org.uk)



Julie is employed by BRCC and funded by Biggleswade Town Council.



Biggleswade Community Group exists to reduce isolation and draw attention to what help is available. If you know anything that we don't, tell us so that we can spread the word and tell others.



## Biggleswade Community News SEPTEMBER 2024



Email: [editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk](mailto:editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk) Tel: 01767 310163

### A BUSY MONTH WITH PLENTY GOING ON! Details inside

**Biggleswade  
History Society**  
Sunday 15th September 2024 | 11am - 3pm  
The Big Theatre, High Street, Biggleswade  
Free Entry  
Wheelchair accessible | Coffee shop  
This year's theme is Routes, Networks, Connections - Biggleswade From Bikes to Buses

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH  
BIGGLESWADE**  
**ST ANDREW'S COUNTRY FAYRE 2024**  
Saturday 21st September  
10am-3:30pm



FREE classes and activities in The Courtyard Centre on Saturday 7th September.

**BIGG  
THEATRE**  
A great venue with a full programme of classes, activities and events.  
Something for everyone.  
Check it out!

**Dunton Garden  
Party**  
Saturday 14th September  
2:00 - 5:00

### Bedfordshire Steam & Country Fayre



13th, 14th & 15th September 2024

**Published by Biggleswade Community Group 01767 310163**

Email: [admin@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk](mailto:admin@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk)

Grab a paper copy or you can read it online at  
[www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk](http://www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk)



**Future Action Biggleswade**

[fab@fabweb.org.uk](mailto:fab@fabweb.org.uk) [www.fabweb.org.uk](http://www.fabweb.org.uk)

We are celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight at St. Andrew's Country Fayre on Saturday 21st September. Everyone is welcome to come along and visit our stall to hear more about how Fairtrade is benefitting local communities in developing countries. Also to take part in our banana tower building competition, using Fairtrade bananas, of course!

Fairtrade Fortnight is from Monday 9th September to Sunday 22nd September. This year it is celebrating 30 years of the Fairtrade mark in the UK. When you see the Fairtrade mark on a product you can be assured that the farmers who grew the Fairtrade ingredients have received a fair price for their goods, that they are farming in a way that looks after the long term viability of their farms, and that their communities benefit by having resources to invest in social initiatives.

**Biggleswade Good Neighbours**

Good Neighbours TEL 07771 104255 or email [biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com) If you receive this newsletter through your door it will almost certainly have been delivered by a volunteer from Biggleswade Good Neighbours. If you would like to help, contact us on 07771 104255 or email [biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com)



We are a local group working to improve Biggleswade's green spaces and grow fresh food to share. Get in touch to learn more or join us. Email

[biggleswadecommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:biggleswadecommunitygardens@gmail.com)



**Ivel Valley College** Contact Dean Hawkins - [dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk](mailto:dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk) - 01767 512080

The students distribute newsletters to pickup points around the town.

**The Bigg Theatre** has joined us as partners, so we will be exploring how we can work together on common aims. They are looking for volunteers to run a daytime grief café, book club, business networking event, LGBTQIA+ safe space group and lead a "walk and talk" from The Bigg Theatre.

[www.thebiggtheatre.co.uk](http://www.thebiggtheatre.co.uk)

SAVE THE DATE  
**Dunton Garden Party**  
 Saturday 14th September  
 2:00 - 5:00  
**Fun activities for all the family**  
 BBQ - Sandy Scouts Pimms & Prosecco Bar  
 Live Music  
 Plants & Cut flowers for sale  
 Refreshments Afternoon Tea  
 Blacksmith and Honey demo's  
 Church Farm, Church Street, Dunton SG18 8RR  
[www.duntongarden.org](http://www.duntongarden.org)

**20 BIGG EATS 24**  
 FOOD MARKETS

**Thurs. 26th Sept 4:00-9:00 pm**  
**In The Market Square**  
 Food stalls with meat, veggie, vegan & gluten free options Plus stalls selling alcoholic & soft drinks. There will be a live DJ! **FREE ENTRY!** Cash and Cards are accepted by most traders but cash is quicker!

Charity And Fundraiser Event  
**MAYOR'S CHARITY WALK**  
 GR & N WHEEL  
 Join us for a fun Green Wheel walk to help raise money for the Mayor's charities Tourettes Action and CHUMS led by the BRCC.  
 Meet at Dan Albone Car Park. End around Saxon Leisure Centre.  
 Start: 9.30 Finish: approx 12.30  
 Approximately 4.3 miles  
**22ND SEPTEMBER 2024**

**JORDANS Mill**  
**CRAFT FOOD FAYRE**  
 Southill Road, Broom, Biggleswade SG18 9JX  
**SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER**  
 Located in the front car park and throughout the grounds  
**10AM TO 3PM**



## WHAT'S ON

### Bedfordshire Steam & Country Fayre



© OB Photographs

13th, 14th & 15th September 2024

Join us at Old Warden Park  
SG18 9EJ

for a fun filled day out for all ages!

Why not make a weekend of it?  
See <https://bseps.org.uk/rally>  
to download a camping form!  
Or if you are looking to go for  
a day you can prebook at a  
discounted rate  
<https://bseps.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets>.

Under 16 FREE with a paying  
adult

### BIGGLESWADE BUS RUNNING DAY

Sunday  
20th  
October 2024

- Free rides out on classic preserved buses between 10am & 4pm
- Buses link local visitor attractions including The Shuttleworth Collection, RSPB Lodge and Jordans Mill
- Buses to Broom, Dunton, Potton, Sandy, Sutton & Wrestlingworth.
- Stops at a selection of local pubs on route.

This event is organised by the United Counties Preservation Group with the support of Biggleswade Town Council and the visiting bus owners.

We welcome entries from preserved bus owners who wish to take part in this event. Please send an email to [chair@ucpg.org.uk](mailto:chair@ucpg.org.uk) if you wish to enter a vehicle.

Biggleswade  
Conservative Club  
St Andrew's Street  
01767 312 225

8pm Weds 4th September  
– **Blues Night**  
Free for Members  
£5 for Non Members

8.45pm Sat 7th September  
– **Elvis** £10 for members,  
£15 for non-members.  
Tickets on sale at the bar.

### Trinity Methodist Church



FOOTPRINTS COFFEE MORNING  
EVERY TUESDAY 9am – 12noon

All welcome to come and make friends



MESSY CHURCH Families are invited to  
come along and join in Christian activities, have fun &  
share a family meal together. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Saturday of each month. Our first session after the  
summer is on Saturday 21<sup>ST</sup> September.

## UPDATES FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS



### What's on in September?

Book at <https://www.thebiggtheatre.co.uk>

Or You can book tickets in person at the venue if  
they are still available

### EVENTS

- Silent Book Club Tuesday 3 September
- Traditional Music Night Tuesday 3 September
- Shell Suit Cher: Believe in Bingo Friday 6 September
- Vinyl Revival Wednesday 11 September
- Open Mic Night Thursday 12 & 26 September
- Thomas Benjamin Wild & The Fancy Chaps Friday 13 September
- Castle Comedy Stephen Bailey & Matt Green Thursday 19 September
- BIGG House Band Friday 20 September
- CSI Biggleswade Crime Scene Improvisation Saturday 21 September
- A Way With Words Wednesday 18 September

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- Tuesdays** Chatty Tuesdays Weekly, 10.00am - 11.30am
- The Singers Weekly, 11.30am - 12.30pm
- Chair Yoga Weekly, 1.00pm - 1.45pm
- Wednesdays** Art Workshop Fortnightly, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Community Catalyst Monthly, 1.00pm - 3.00pm
- Thursdays**
- New Classes Coming Soon

**CONTACT US** [info@thebiggtheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@thebiggtheatre.co.uk)





### Heritage Open Day

Sunday 15th September 11.00 am - 3.00pm at the Bigg Theatre, High Street Biggleswade

The theme is 'Routes, Networks, Connections' - Biggleswade From Bikes to Buses

Free Entry; Wheelchair accessible; Coffee Shop

Displays and organisations include:

- Berkeley Cars
- Biggleswade Fire Service
- United Counties Bus Preservation Group
- Dan Albone Exhibition
- History of Biggleswade Postal Service
- Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity - Biggleswade Green Wheel
- Children's activities and Family History Adventure Quiz



### Join us for our Open Day!

A whole day of FREE classes and activities on Saturday 7th September at The Courtyard Centre. We'll be swinging open the iconic black gates of the Courtyard to welcome you. Whether you're a seasoned Yogi or just starting out on your journey, this day of FREE classes and activities is for everyone. Why not try something new, or bring a friend along and share the joy of yoga!

We look forward to seeing you at the The Courtyard Centre for Health & Wellbeing, High Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0JA

### Bedfordshire Group - Alpine Garden Society



Our next meeting is on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September**, at **2.30 for 3.00 pm**, in the **Elgar Room** at the **Weatherley Centre**. We will be holding a "**Members Afternoon**" **Sally Bennett** will be telling us all about **Hardy Ferns**, and **David and / or Liz Livermore** will be giving us one of their popular travelogues based on several visits to **Northern Lancashire and Southern Cumbria in March**.

[www.bedfordshirealpines.com](http://www.bedfordshirealpines.com)

### Biggleswade St Andrew's Country Fayre



The Country Fayre takes place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September at Biggleswade St Andrew's Church in Shortmead Street. Each year it is run to raise money for different charities. This time the focus is both international and local.

With **Water Aid** the church and its parishioners help to provide sanitation to those in need. You may remember the Great Biggleswade Loo Push back in February, which raised over £2,000 for Mafambisa Care Point, in South Africa. Well, the bathroom go-karting has moved to a different appliance. Two bathtubs turned go-karts will be pushed to open the Fayre in a fund raising effort. They will start from Biggleswade Town Centre, and head to the Fayre's arena. The scrubtacular race will start at 9:45am, with the Country Fayre officially starting at 10am.

**NOAH** (New Opportunities and Horizon) is a Luton based charity that works across Bedfordshire to provide support to the most vulnerable in our community

St Andrews annual Country Fayre has been taking place for 39 years. It has become an integral part of Biggleswade's community, history and a pride of the town. It brings locals together for some light entertainment, offering something for all the family whilst raising money for charities.

On the day there will be lots to see and do. The arena will have a rolling programme with various acts from the local community, from school choirs, dancers, majorettes, singing groups and more. There will be a BBQ and plenty of refreshments available. Inside the church there will be an exhibition on the charities that the Fayre is supporting. The event will end at about 3:30pm, with a grand draw in the arena.

<https://standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk>

<https://noahenterprise.org> [www.wateraid.org/uk](http://www.wateraid.org/uk)