



# Can We Help?

Do you live in Central Bedfordshire and are aged over 50?

Winter Warmth Agents can help you access services and support to reduce fuel poverty and improve your health and wellbeing ahead of the colder months

Contact us:

✉ [winterwarmthagents@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:winterwarmthagents@bedsrcc.org.uk)

🌐 [ywb.org.uk/wwwa](http://ywb.org.uk/wwwa)

☎ 01234 838771




**Getting married or planning a civil partnership in Central Bedfordshire?**

We've launched a new pre-ceremony discussion to help you to feel fully prepared for your big day.

- Talk through ceremony preferences
- Ask questions
- Finalise important details in advance

This optional service is now included in our updated ceremony fees

0300 300 8711

[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



## Biggleswade Community News

JULY 2025

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

**A Little History:** On 16 June 1785 a fire started at the Crown Inn and spread rapidly through neighbouring streets, destroying nearly one third of the town. A national appeal raised funds for 332 people who lost their homes and others who lost their livelihoods. The Great Fire is among the historical scenes shown in a Millennium stained-glass window in St Andrew's Church.

### ABOUT OUR TOWN



**Victory Day Celebration** on Saturday 5th July to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Days. It takes place in the Market Square from 2 PM - 6 PM with Free Entry! Delicious food & refreshing drinks, live music and stalls, entertainment from the 40s and 50s, Punch and Judy shows etc.

*Also there will be artisan craft markets on 5th and 26th July in Market Square.*

**Biggleswade Library** provides a community hub for residents, with a children's centre, Registrar's office and help with online banking.

**The registration service** is in an office located in the library building from Wednesday to Friday. It opens from 9:30am to 4:30pm and handles registrations for births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships.

**Biggleswade Children's Centre** also delivers its service from the library.

**Barclays Bank** offers an advice centre from Tuesday to Thursday between 10am and 4pm. It supports customers during the transition to online services.

**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)



### Symptoms of dehydration in adults and children include:

- feeling thirsty
- dark yellow and strong-smelling pee
- feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- feeling tired
- a dry mouth, lips and tongue
- peeing less often than usual



### Things you can do to treat dehydration:

- You should drink fluids if you have symptoms of dehydration
- If you feel sick or have been sick, you may find it hard to drink, so start with small sips
- A pharmacist can help with dehydration



MORE NHS Information here:

[www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health)

## Biggleswade Community Group & Partners



**Biggleswade Community Group** exists for you, our readers, to provide support and keep you informed. [www.biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk](http://www.biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk)



**Biggleswade Town Council** provides funding to allow us to print paper copies of this newsletter and offer it free of charge to our readers. [enquiries@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk)



**Future Action Biggleswade** organises and attends community events and encourages us to consider the impact of our buying decisions. [www.fabweb.org.uk](http://www.fabweb.org.uk)



**Biggleswade Good Neighbours** deliver this newsletter to their clients. Many are housebound and without Internet. Tel 07771 104255 or email [biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com](mailto:biggleswadegoodneighbours@gmail.com)



**Biggleswade Community Garden** works to improve Biggleswade's green spaces and grow fresh food to share. Get in touch to learn more. Email [biggleswadecommunitygardens@gmail.com](mailto:biggleswadecommunitygardens@gmail.com)



**Ivel Valley College** students distribute this newsletter to pickup points around Biggleswade. Contact Dean Hawkins [dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk](mailto:dean.hawkins@ivelvalley.beds.sch.uk) 01767 512080



**The Bigg Theatre** as well as events, hosts a variety of community groups, meeting needs in Biggleswade. [www.thebiggtheatre.co.uk](http://www.thebiggtheatre.co.uk)



**Biggleswade Community Carnival Group** organises a range of events. [www.biggleswadecarnival.co.uk](http://www.biggleswadecarnival.co.uk)





**Biggleswade Community Safety Group** works with the Police and other services to help reduce:-Criminal Damage, Burglary, Anti Social Behaviour, Fear of Crime, Youth Issues and Vehicle Crime. They also share information about scams, local events and safety issues. [Biggleswadecsg@gmail.com](mailto:Biggleswadecsg@gmail.com)



### Events in Biggleswade Market Square

**80 VE | VJ DAY** Saturday 5th July Victory Day Celebrations

 Saturday 26th July 8:00 am - 3:00 pm Artisan Craft Market

 Thursday 31st July 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm Bigg Eats



Please keep us updated, If you don't tell us about your events we cannot tell our readers.

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



## WHAT'S ON



### Afternoon Tea at Trinity Methodist

Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade:  
Thursday 10th July  
2pm - 4pm

Come and join us for afternoon tea (includes sandwiches, scones etc) £10 in aid of Christian Aid.

### Summer Singalong



at The Bigg Theatre with "The Singers" Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 11.30 am

Everyone welcome to join us!  
Donations to The Bigg Theatre

### Sea Shanty Sessions

Third Tuesday Of The Month



Come and unleash your inner sailor or pirate. No experience needed as all encouragement and song sheets are provided. 8pm at The Bigg Theatre



[www.duntonfolk.com](http://www.duntonfolk.com)  
The Bigg Theatre, 36 High Street, Biggleswade. SG18 0JL



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

### What's On In July . . .

Traditional Music Session Tuesday 1 July  
Live Music Quiz Thursday 3 July  
Jarman - The Story of Derek Jarman Friday 4 July  
Baby Knees Up VE80 Special Saturday 5 July  
Carradine's Cockney Singalong Saturday 5 July  
Singing for Victory - VE80 Sunday 6 July  
Vinyl Revival Wednesday 9 July  
Open Mic Night Thursday 10 & 31 July  
Sea Shanty Session Tuesday 15 July  
A Way With Words, Poetry Open Mic Wednesday 16 July  
The Reggulites - Summer Reggae Saturday 19 July  
Watercolour & Wine Wednesday 23 July

## UPDATES FROM OUR PARTNERS

**Biggleswade Community Group** is very grateful to all those volunteers who kindly distribute paper copies of the newsletter each month.

Pupils and staff at Ivel Valley College take copies to around 25 business and office premises around the town for the public to pick up. A team of 20 or so volunteers deliver a copy to the home address of each Biggleswade Good Neighbours client and volunteer. Thank you to Sara and Jackie, who have both recently stepped down from this role after many years of making deliveries. Also thanks to Rachel and family, who have taken over Sara's round, to Brian and Erica who are sharing Jackie's deliveries and to Neil, who now covers Upper Caldecote for us. Further thanks to Simon and Allan who have been helping out whilst Nettie has been out of action.

### IVEL VALLEY SCHOOL SUPPORTS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



Hear2Listen is a Community Interest Company

providing professional services for young people and adults. Our 6<sup>TH</sup> Form students deliver the Biggleswade Community News each month and have now encouraged The Studio to become one of its Patrons as a fully inclusive community supporter.

Local to us in town on the high street, There's space for everyone and they understand the importance of creating a space that fills the gaps in our community, offering a sanctuary designed to support and uplift neurodiverse individuals. This is a place where everyone is welcome, because sensory experiences can benefit us all.

The Studio provides a safe, non-judgmental space where you can move, play and connect in whatever way feels right for you. With plenty of room to explore; Relax or swing in aerial hammocks; Engage with busy boards for hands-on interaction. Experience the 32m<sup>2</sup> interactive floor with exciting activities like: Walking through a virtual aquarium, Playing the Floor is Lava, Enjoying football, Squash the bugs, and Fireworks that follow your steps, and more!

They will welcome you to drop in, whether you're seeking a place to relax, explore, or connect, the Sensory Studio is here for you. Come and experience the difference! Get in touch.

Join us in making our community stronger, one sensory experience at a time.

## UPDATES FROM LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

**Imagination Dance CIC** have been providing school holiday SEND-specific workshops over the past academic year for families in Biggleswade and the surrounding areas. We have explored themes such as Disney, Around the World, and The Gruffalo in our sensory movement workshops - designed for those aged 3+ who need support from a parent/carer to participate. These workshops are full of movement, music, props and sensory activities all designed to support children's social skills, spatial and self awareness, and creativity. For those aged 7+, our dance and activity workshops offered a range of activities including dance, drama, arts & crafts and multi-sport games to improve children's confidence, social skills and overall wellbeing. These workshops have been a great success and we look forward to providing more over the next academic year!

If your child has additional needs and you are looking for activities during term-time or in the school holidays, please do follow us on our social media pages, or email us to be added to our mailing list! [info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com](mailto:info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com)

Many thanks to the UKSPF Culture Fund, Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford & Luton Community Fund for the funding for these workshops.



Bedfordshire & Luton  
Community Foundation

Hannah Stoye, Company Director  
Imagination Dance CIC

07394 934911 [imaginationarts.co.uk](http://imaginationarts.co.uk)

**Best Senior Dance & Exercise  
CIC - GHP Awards, 2024**

Central  
Bedfordshire



**Funded by  
UK Government**



**TOWN CAR PARKS** Biggleswade: Chestnut Avenue, Dan Albone, Mill Lane, Rose Lane, St Andrews, White Hart. A ticket must be obtained from the machine and displayed. It is free for 1 hour in Chestnut Avenue or the White Hart; 2 hours at the others. If extra time is required it must be paid for on arrival.

Resident and Worker Permits can be purchased and allow you to park in the applicable car park for an unlimited amount of time. Full details are available here

<https://biggleswadetowncouncil.gov.uk/services/car-parks/>

## Sea Shanty Workshops

Tailored to the needs of your group



Ever fancied having a go at singing sea shanties?  
Have you ever wondered about their history?  
Simon Bales will take you on a maritime journey.  
No experience necessary. All you need is a sense of fun and some enthusiasm. To book give Simon a shout - 07807 535 110 or drop him an email - [duntonfolk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:duntonfolk@hotmail.co.uk).



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



**Future  
Action  
Biggleswade**  
Was at the  
Duck Race

Fete promoting Great  
Big Green Week.

On Saturday 25th  
October we will have  
another "Think as you  
Shop" event in the  
Bigg Theatre.  
Appropriate local  
businesses are invited  
to apply for a free  
stall.

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

## **Dunton Playing Field Football pitch**

is available for hire by  
a youth football team.

Enquiries to  
[admin@duntonra.org.uk](mailto:admin@duntonra.org.uk)



## **Bedfordshire Group - Alpine Garden Society**

In July we welcome back **Diane Clement** who will tell us all about "A Year in the Life of an Alpine Gardener". As well as being a superb Alpine plant grower, Diane is a keen exhibitor, an AGS Judge and currently Vice-Chair of the RHS Alpine and Rock Garden Expert Group (formerly the Joint Rock Garden Committee). Her interests are wide ranging and she has extensive collections of bulbous plants, hepaticas, cyclamen and woodland plants. Why not come along to learn from one of our experts, on **Saturday 26th July** at **2.00 for 2.30 pm**, in the **Elgar Room** in the **Weatherley Centre**.

The cost for non-members is £5, which includes a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits. [www.bedfordshirealpines.com](http://www.bedfordshirealpines.com)