



# 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)



**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)

**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.

**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**



**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



[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 26<sup>th</sup> 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)





### 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



### 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

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

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





**JULY 5**

**BIGGLESWADE VICTORY DAY CELEBRATIONS**

Saturday, July 5th – Market Square

*Get ready to dress 1940s-style!*



**JORDANS Mill**

**CRAFT FOOD FAYRE**

Southill Road, Broom, Biggleswade SG18 9JX

**SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

Located in the front car park and throughout the grounds

**10AM TO 3PM**



Please support the **DUNTON RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Fundraising BARN DANCE**

BBQ available

Advance tickets only £15 each

Saturday 19th July  
7.30pm till 11pm  
Doors open 7pm

Live music and caller with the **BULLENBUSH BAND**

**Dunton Memorial Hall**  
For more information and to book tickets, contact Heidi on 01767 601857  
heidi-herbert@hotmail.co.uk



**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)

# 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



Central Bedfordshire

## 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)

**NHS**

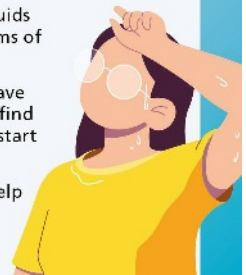
### Symptoms of dehydration in adults and children include:

- 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)