



Biggleswade Community News AUGUST 2025



Email: editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk Tel: 01767 310163

What are the Birth Flowers for the Month of August?

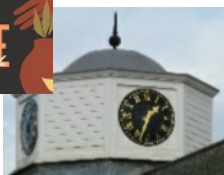
Gladiolus, a symbol of strength and love and Poppies

The poppy has long been associated with those lost during times of war. In addition to being a long-time symbol of remembrance, poppies are symbols of sleep, peace and death, as well as resurrection.

ABOUT OUR TOWN



Our very own sea shanty group. They meet on the third Tuesday of the month (between 8.00pm and 9.30pm), at The Bigg Theatre in Biggleswade, to sing sea shanties and other traditional songs. All welcome! No experience is needed. Song sheets will be provided <https://duntonfolk.com>



In 1227, Biggleswade was granted full market town status. By 1631 there were five fairs with corn, livestock, and plant markets which ran up until the 20th century, whilst the Ancient Horse Fair continued until 1958. The Charter Market continues to the present day every Saturday in Market Square. There is also a Tuesday market, as well as visiting food markets periodically scheduled throughout the year.



A child friendly cafe and activities

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Email: admin@biggleswadecommunitygroup.org.uk

Grab a paper copy or you can read it online at
www.biggleswadecommunitynews.uk

Biggleswade Community Group & Partners



Biggleswade Community Group exists for you, our readers, to provide support and keep you informed.
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



Future Action Biggleswade FAB (Future Action Biggleswade) campaigns for social and environmental justice: Thinking About People, Thinking Environmentally, Thinking Local 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



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



Ivel Valley College students distribute this newsletter to pickup points around Biggleswade.
Contact Dean Hawkins
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



Biggleswade Community Carnival Group organises a range of events. 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. Also to share information about scams and safety issues.
Biggleswadecsg@gmail.com



Biggleswade Community Group

Our main activity continues to be producing and distributing this newsletter in print and online. We are a small team with big ideas but we need more volunteers to help to put them into practice!



Fairtrade Fortnight begins on Monday 22nd September. The theme is "Brew it Fair", focussing on tea. We will support it (in advance) with a stall at St. Andrew's Country Fayre on Saturday 20th September 2025. See you there.

This year our Think As You Shop Event will be on Saturday 25th October. It takes place at the Bigg Theatre where refreshments will be available. There will be stalls for selected local organisations to show you what they have on offer.



In addition to our programme of events, we host these activities:

Tuesdays

Chatty Tuesdays: Weekly, 10.00am - 11.30am

Broadway Boogie Encore: Weekly, 10.15am - 11.00am

The Singers Weekly: 11.30am - 12.30pm

Chair Yoga Weekly: 1.00pm - 1.45pm

Wednesdays

Art Workshop: 1st & 3rd Weds each month, 12.00pm - 2.00pm

Somewhere to Sing: Weekly, 7.30pm

Thursdays

For Men to Talk: 2nd & 4th Thurs of the month,
10.30am - 12noon

Bedfordshire Carers, the Biggleswade hub: 3rd Thursday of
the month, 10am - 1pm

Fridays

Grief Café: Postponed until further notice



25 Years of Town Twinning

Biggleswade - Erlensee



25 years ago, following an exploratory visit to Erlensee in Germany an agreement was signed to initiate a formal Twinning. The two towns are similar size and were a good match. This has proved to be a good decision and friendships were formed that continue still.

Following an invitation from Erlensee Mayor, Stefan Erb, Biggleswade Town Councillors Jonathan Woodhead and Madeline Russell visited the town over the May Bank Holiday for celebrations to mark the anniversary. The visit included a variety of events, highlighting the strong and lasting bond between Biggleswade and Erlensee.

A formal reception was held on Sunday and included a brass band performance celebrating the spirit of international friendship. Biggleswade Councillor Russell presented a commemorative plaque and a historic map of Biggleswade, dating back approximately 100 years, on behalf of the Town Council. She also delivered a speech which was given in both German and English and extended warm greetings from the people of Biggleswade. Councillor Woodhead, on his first visit to Erlensee, also spoke warmly of the occasion and presented a personal gift to Mayor Erb.

Erlensee Mayor Stefan Erb, who has held office for 23 years and has been involved with the twinning since the beginning, gave a heartfelt bilingual speech. He reflected on the enduring partnership between our towns.

The visit concluded on Monday morning with a farewell breakfast at the local secondary school, drawing to a close a memorable and meaningful celebration. We can look forward to many more years of friendship and collaboration.

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



Biggleswade History Society

Methodist Church, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Doors open 7.30 for 8 pm start, Non-members £4. No pre-booking required.
biggleswadehistory.org.uk

Monday 1st September 'My Years Working at Horace Gale Ltd' by Alan Waring - The Biggles FM presenter shares interesting and amusing anecdotes of his time working at the popular electrical shop in town.



Biggleswade Town Council is the local authority for Biggleswade. Their mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents, support local businesses, and foster a vibrant and inclusive community.

They are responsible for:

- Maintaining local parks and green spaces
- Organising community events and activities
- Supporting local development and planning applications
- Overseeing the upkeep of public amenities, such as markets and cemeteries
- Advocating for the needs of Biggleswade's residents at a regional and national level



Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre

Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, SG18 8SU Telephone: 01767 433133

Here at Saxon Pool & Leisure Centre, our mission is to help everyone in the local community enjoy getting active for at least 30 minutes, five times a week. To help us do that, our centre is packed with outstanding facilities and all the latest equipment. These include two swimming pools – a 25-metre main pool and a smaller teaching pool – as well as a 102-station gym. There's also two group exercise studios, a sports hall and a café, too.



acting as agent of



What's On In August . . .

The BIGG House Band Glenn Miller Special
Friday 1 August

Silent Book Club, Tuesday 5 August

Traditional Music Session Tuesday 5 August

Live Music Quiz Thursday 7 August

James O'Hurley with local support DrewJam Saturday 9 August

Vinyl Revival Wednesday 13 August

Castle Comedy present Cally Beaton WIP Thursday 14 August

Super Mega Rockin' Rock Show Saturday 16 August

Sea Shanty Session Tuesday 19 August

A Way With Words Poetry Open Mic Wednesday 20 August

Open Mic Night Thursday 21 August

Children of the Revolution Saturday 23 August

SPLAT! Sunday 24 August

Watercolour & Wine Wednesday 27 August



TUESDAY in BIGGLESWADE LIBRARY

Armed Forces & Veterans Drop-In Tuesdays 09:00 – 12:00

Close Knit Friends Tuesdays 14:00 – 15:30

Our weekly knitting, sewing and crochet group. Please note you will need to bring your own materials. Refreshments will not be provided, but feel free to bring your own beverages as long as they have a secure lid. For more information, please speak to a member of staff at the library.





Light Lunch at Trinity Methodist Church,
Shortmead Street, Biggleswade

Thursday 4th September 12-1.30pm

Choice of homemade soups with roll and butter,
piece of cake/pie with tea/coffee/squash.

All for £6



Saint Andrew's Country Fayre
Saturday 20th September 2025



40th Anniversary Special
Fun for all the family



What is happening?



What do you
know that we
don't?

If you tell us, we
can tell others.

01767 310163

[editor@biggleswadecommu
nitynews.uk](mailto:editor@biggleswadecommunitynews.uk)



**Do you look after
someone who cannot
manage without you?**



**We're here to offer free
support to all unpaid
Carers across Bedfordshire**

You've helped
me so much
I wish I had called
you sooner.



COMMUNITY
FUND

0300 111 1919

www.carersinbeds.org.uk

Volunteer with us!

We are your local Community Energy Group. Are you interested in renewable energy, lowering energy costs and supporting local projects that make a difference? Community energy (CE) is a growing movement which allows local people to take back control of how their energy is generated and used. You can learn more here: [What is Community Energy?](#)

Whether you have regular free time, a block of time or can provide ad hoc advice **we need you.**



info@riverivelcommunityenergy.com



Walk Buddies

Do you enjoy meeting people and supporting those in your local community?

Do you enjoy being outside in your local area and can share this enthusiasm with local residents who need someone to support them become more active and confident walking?

Could you spare an hour or two each week to support a local resident with a walking activity either in their home or in the local area?

Full support from your Walk Buddy Coordinator with training and information sessions and opportunities to meet other volunteers.

Benefits for volunteers:

- Help to make a difference to residents in your community
- Company and a chat!
- Exercise and fresh air
- Boost your mental health

If you would like to volunteer as a Walk Buddy, please contact Debra:

debra.aitken@bedsrcc.org.uk

07951 175241

