

FEBRUARY 2024

The Bathford Bulletin

For the residents of Bathford, Shockerwick and Warleigh

The Bathford Players Present



Peter Pan

(The Panto!)

by James Barry
(based on the book and play by J. M. Barrie)

Thurs 15th - Sat 17th February

SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS

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The Editorial Team

Hillary Carr - Editor & Advertising
Maureen Breeze - Editor
Helen Keelty - Editorial
Kath Shayler - Creative

We welcome all articles, images and notifications of births, deaths and marriages.

Please send details to:
bathfordbulletin@gmail.com

The Bathford Bulletin needs you!!

Fancy having a go at writing articles for the Bulletin? Interested in joining the Editorial Team?

Can you use InDesign or Microsoft Publisher and have some spare time to help with the formatting?

You would be most welcome!
Email bathfordbulletin@gmail.com if you are interested or would like to know more.

March issue copy deadline

Contributions and advertisements are welcome, up to but no later than **15 February** via:
bathfordbulletin@gmail.com

The Bathford Bulletin is produced and delivered free to all homes in the Parish, 10 months a year on an entirely voluntary basis.

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WELCOME TO FEBRUARY!

Best wishes for a happy new year to you all. We hope you enjoyed a festive season with your family and friends and that 2024 brings you good health, wealth and happiness.

Rumours that a bearded man was seen building an Ark next to the flooded pitch opposite the Crown and rounding up pairs of wildlife proved unfounded – but wouldn't have looked amiss at the beginning of the year.

What is good to see is the number of activities taking place or planned in the first few months of this year – hence a bumper 24 page issue!

We all know how much you love quiz nights. Well, there are 4 quizzes scheduled already and more proposed. **See page 6** to save the dates and start getting your teams together.

This year, Shrove Tuesday, 13 February, gets a French theme with delicious fresh crêpes being prepared in the Village Shop Café – **see page 10.**

Half-term in February sees the welcome return of Pantomime to the village with the production of Peter Pan by the Bathford Players. We hope folk will lend their support to this production as much as for their recent excellent staging of Ayckbourn's 'Improbable Fiction'. **See page 10** for details.

14 February is forever recognised as St. Valentine's Day. He is the patron Saint, not only of lovers, but also epileptics and beekeepers! Isobel Lawes has chosen a selection of books to read on the romantic theme in our Bookmark article on **page 17.**

Happy Valentine's Day to all loving couples in the Parish and especially to those getting engaged or married this year! Remember, as it's a leap year, it's a woman's prerogative to propose on February 29th!

Editorial Team

Happy Valentine's Day

Jazzford Jam

Jazz Jam sessions at Bathford Village Club; Local 'house band' and plenty of opportunity for any players or singers to sit in. Keys, drums and amps provided. Please come and join us to play or listen. Free entry, friendly atmosphere and a great value bar!



Bathford Village Club (BA1 7SN)
Friday 23 February at 20:00
An evening of groovin' Jazz standards from local musicians
(4th Friday every month)



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THE VILLAGE
CLUB
Bathford

A belated Happy New Year to you all!
It's lovely to be on the right side of the clock change and seeing the daylight hours slowly

but surely extending and the New Year continues into February at The Village Club with lots planned.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT – 20:30

Saturday 10 February | Valentine's Do with Lucy Harvey - an excellent female singer who has the most incredible voice as well as plays the saxophone beautifully - Lucy always provides an excellent evening of entertainment.

Saturday 24 February | Jason Lee – a firm favourite at the Club who never fails to entertain – he covers music from across all eras.

BINGO

Friday 16 February – 19:30

Always an excellent night; always entertaining, always winners. Come and chance your luck - £5 for a book of 4 games and 2 flyers - 12 chances of winning.

JAZZFORD JAM

Friday 23 February – 20:00

An evening of music from the local 'house band' with plenty of opportunity for any players or singers to join in. Please come and join us to play or listen.

RUGBY UNION – SIX NATIONS

The tournament kicks off early in February and we will be open and showing all England games and hopefully a few more.

Saturday 3 February | Italy v England
14:15 kick-off

Saturday 10 February | England v Wales
16:45 kick-off

Saturday 24 February | Scotland v England
16:45 kick-off

We hope to see as many of you as possible over the coming month – remember you don't have to be a member to use this local venue – all are made very welcome.



ST SWITHUN'S FILM CLUB

We have a fantastic best seller for St Swithun's Film Club in February. The Great Escaper (2023) (cert 12) stars Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson in this simply wonderful heartwarming tale inspired by a true love story. Michael Caine plays 'Bernie' who stages a 'great escape' from his care home to join other war veterans at a D-Day Landings Anniversary in Normandy. Please join us at **14:00** on **Monday 26 February** and enjoy complimentary tea and cakes after the film. (Suggested donation £3).

Everyone welcome - no need to book.
Any questions phone Ann Wade:
tel 07766 554649.

WELCOME to the Parish

- Are you new to the Parish?
- Do you have a neighbour who has moved in recently?
- Are you a local group or organisation that wants to promote yourself to new residents?

Then you need to contact Pam at:
pampriston@googlemail.com

Pam collates information of interest for new residents into a pack and delivers it to them as a gesture of welcome, to our community.

QUIZ NIGHT

We all know that Bathford residents love a Quiz Night, so start planning your diaries as we have a wealth of opportunity in the coming months to test your 'grey matter,' hippocampus or temporal lobes.

Put the following dates in your diaries, get your friends together and come up with original team names for...

March 15 Bathford School Quiz, Bathford School

April 19 BEFA Quiz, Parish Hall

May 17 Twinning Quiz, Parish Hall

June 14 St. Swithun's Quiz, Parish Hall

Details on each of these quizzes will follow in forthcoming issues. And there may be more to come! We'll keep you informed.

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Some Enchanted Evening	La donna e mobile
The Impossible Dream	Funiculi Funicula
Gnana	and many more!

St. John The Baptist Church, Batheaston
 Sunday 11th February 2024 at 3 p.m.
 Tickets £12 to include tea and cake
 To book tickets please contact Keith Masdin 01225 858042
 Or email - keithmasdin@btinternet.com
 Or Pay On The Door, Under 18s Free
 All profits will go towards essential internal decoration of St. John's

GET ON BOARD FOR FREE BUS TRAVEL IN YOUR BIRTHDAY MONTH

Apply for your FREE BIRTHDAY BUS PASS, valid across buses in the West of England for the whole of your birthday month.

TIME TO 'LEAP' ON TO THE BUS:

2024 is a leap year which means an extra day added to the calendar. That's great news for those with February birthdays as they will have a whole extra day to use their free 'Birthday Bus Month Pass'.

Birthday Buses from the Mayoral Combined Authority gives you unlimited free bus travel throughout the month of your Birthday. Don't forget to apply at: www.birthdaybus.co.uk

'SOCIAL ECONOMY WEST' LAUNCHES

Co-operatives and other community-focused firms can now access advice and support from a new service: Social Economy West. Find out more at www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/socialconomywest.



Dan Norris, Metro Mayor of the West of England

BATHFORD VILLAGE SHOP & CAFÉ

Our Fabulous February Draw is back!

Every transaction of £29 or more made in the month of February (February 1-29 inclusive) will entitle you to enter the Draw with a chance to win some fabulous prizes. Remember to write your name and contact details on the back of your receipt and drop it into the Draw Box at the till. We will have the draw on the last day of February.



Meanwhile we are continuing to offer a Warm Space for those in need. This year we have more activities to offer alongside hot drinks and cake, including board games, puzzles, crafts and Mahjong Mornings (Thursday).



BEFA were delighted to host the first Volunteers' Social Gathering of 2024 in the Parish Hall in mid-January. Drinks and nibbles were enjoyed by all as a thank you for their commitment and contribution.

Please note we are no longer collecting used blister packs as the recycling centre is no longer accepting them.



BATHFORD SOCIETY

Peter Davenport: Batheaston ByPass and its Archaeology

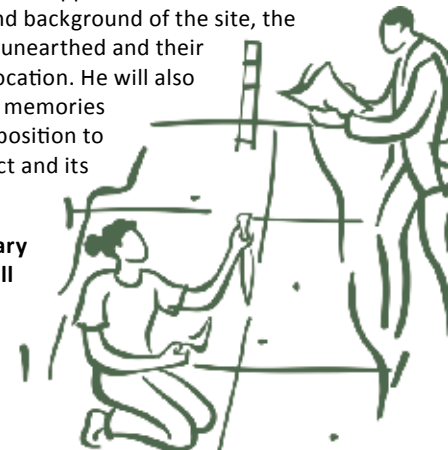
The earliest finds 'merited publication and were of national significance'. It was during construction of the Batheaston Bypass that archaeological traces were noted when moving the earth. The Bath Archaeological Trust managed the subsequent salvage excavation. The project was managed by tonight's speaker and revealed and recorded important remains of a rural settlement founded around 250BC and continuing into the late Roman period and beyond.

The building of the Bypass, which opened in 1996, was highly controversial and both the construction and archaeological phases were beset by intrusive security issues. The Bypass ended at the Bathford Roundabout though there are innumerable engineers' surveys and

planning documents proposing a network of new carriageways across Bath, most of which were dropped. Peter will describe the history and background of the site, the artefacts unearthed and their present location. He will also tell us his memories of the opposition to the project and its impact.

26 February
 Parish Hall
 20:00

Peter Martin





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FROM ST SWITHUN'S

Dear Friends

Lent is very early this year - so early that we have hardly had time to start on our New Year's intentions before being asked what we're giving up for Lent!

I'm not sure we can do any more 'giving up' just now... instead I wonder if we can focus on what we need more of? More kindness? More concern? More action?

- For ourselves in terms of our wellbeing
- For children growing up in thoroughly urban environments
- For our planet
- For ourselves in terms of our consuming
- For anyone whose mental health is not great
- For children around the world growing up hungry....

With these thoughts I've invited some speakers to come to this year's Lunctime Lent Meetings to share what they are doing, for us to see something more.

Tues 20 February

MUSIC THERAPY | Adrian Snell
St John's, Batheaston

Weds 28 February

ENVIRONMENT | A Rocha (+ Eco Together)
St Swithun's, Bathford

Weds 6 March

INTERNATIONAL ACTION | Mary's Meals
St Swithun's, Bathford

Weds 13 March

LOCAL GREEN LIVING | Share and Repair Shop,
Bath | St John's, Batheaston

Weds 20 March

WELLBEING + GOOD LIVING | Bath City Farm
St John's, Batheaston

Weds 27 March

RURAL ACTION | Jamie's Farm
St Swithun's, Bathford

Please feel very welcome to come, whether you consider yourself to be connected with the church or not. This is about the fullness of life, and I'm sure you will have lots of thoughts and ideas to share that will come out of the meetings. Please come promptly at 12:00 and bring a lunch of some kind- coffee/tea will be provided.

See you there, I hope!

Each talk will start at 12:30; please don't be late!

With every blessing,

Lauretta



For up-to-date information, please visit our website www.stswithunsbathford.co.uk
Rev'd Lauretta | revlauretta@outlook.com John Keilty | churchwardenj@stswithunsbathford.co.uk
Katherine Lush | churchwardenk@stswithunsbathford.co.uk
Church Office | Zoe Hill 01225 920050 administrator@stswithunsbathford.co.uk



PETER PAN (The Panto!)

Comes to Bathford Parish Hall

Bathford Players are delighted to announce that **Peter Pan (The Panto!)** by James Barry (based on the book and play by J.M. Barrie) is coming to the stage at **Bathford Parish Hall** during February half term.

Performances are on **Thursday 15 February** and **Friday 16 February 2024 at 19:30** and **Saturday 17 February 2024 at 13:30 and 18:00**. Tickets are **£10 adults** and **£7 children** and are available from the **Bathford Village Shop** or by visiting www.bathfordplayers.co.uk (a booking fee will be applied to online bookings).

Delivered in a modern pantomime style, this musical story remains faithful to the original. It tells the tale of Peter Pan and Tinkerbell the fairy, leading Wendy Darling and her brothers on an adventure to Neverland culminating in the final showdown with Peter's enemy, Captain Hook (and Hook's enemy, the crocodile).

With colourful costumes, familiar songs and carefully choreographed dances, the performance is sure to appeal to adults and children alike.

Director, Emma Sanchez said: "Bathford Players have brought the magic of Peter Pan to life with lots of fun, laughter and enthusiasm. They will be sure to get you on your feet with their toe tapping numbers and classic panto one-liners. The fantastic cast of mixed ages, starting at six years old, have worked their socks off to bring you an outstanding performance. You don't want to miss it."



TRAVEL BURSARIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO GO TO FRANCE

Bathford Twinning Association wants to support young people to improve their understanding of France and the French language by offering a helping hand to those who might otherwise find it difficult to afford to travel. We also hope to encourage younger people to take an interest in the activities of the Twinning Association.

The subsidy scheme makes up to £250 available to any young person who lives within the Parish of Bathford, is old enough to travel independently and has not yet reached their 21st birthday.

The Twinning Association will negotiate accommodation in a family home in our Twin Village of Artannes-sur-Indre wherever possible.

Visits will usually last up to one week although longer visits may be possible. Applicants should have a clear purpose in mind for the visit.

For further information, please email: kevinmarris@hotmail.com

*Maureen Breeze
Chair Bathford Twinning Association*

SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKES WITH A FRENCH TWIST

Freshly made Crêpes will be on sale in the Café. Crêpe is the French word for pancake, the difference being that crêpes are a little thinner and crispier.

Jointly organized by Bathford Twinning Association & BEFA Ltd

£1 EACH

3:30PM TO 5PM

COME AND JOIN US!

BATHFORD VILLAGE SHOP
54 BATHFORD HILL BA1 7SN

13 FEB 2024



BATHFORD VILLAGE CHOIR

Come along and help save our choir!

After the success of Gareth Jones' series on TV inspiring village communities to set up choirs, we responded to the challenge 11 years ago to create a choir; we were lucky to have a talented musician, Nick Breeze, available and willing to become our first Choir Master. We had a regular attendance of around 40 for our weekly rehearsals. Our first concert was in December 2013, and we have continued with Summer and Winter concerts annually since then, apart from the pandemic years. These have been eagerly awaited, and very popular events and have raised considerable amounts for local charities.

Unfortunately, after 'Covid', like so many other organisations, our numbers have fallen to about 20, making it difficult to put on our usual concert; so last Summer we invited some talented local musicians to join us, resulting in a full and varied programme, a format which we hope to repeat in the future.

Due to the lack of numbers and a shortened rehearsal time, we were unable to give our usual Christmas Concert, but had an enjoyable time with family and friends, mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Hall.

Our remaining members really enjoy singing in a choir but as we now have a professional Choir Master and pianist, we urgently need to increase our membership numbers in order to cover our weekly expenditure and avoid closing down.

We are therefore putting out a plea to all 'would be' singers or anyone willing to come and have a go on a free trial basis. We are sure that you will enjoy it and we would love to see you.

We meet every **Thursday at 19:45** in the Parish Hall, Church Street, Bathford. The cost is only £4 per session, starting again on **February 8**.

Please come along and help us save our choir and enjoy the experience. Telephone Pam or Colin on **01225 743499** for further information.

Colin Priston



100 ACTION-PACKED YEARS

- a life lived to the full



Anne Marie enjoying the sun at Shockerwick House

There were happy celebrations at Shockerwick House on the 28 December to mark the 100th birthday of Anne Marie Rideal. Having visited her son Peter and daughter-in-law Alison who have lived in Bathford for 35 years and spending the Covid lockdowns with them, Anne Marie decided to move to Shockerwick House in 2021

to be nearer to the family.

Shockerwick House is a very different environment from the one in which she grew up. She is French and started life in St Quentin in northern France, where her parents ran a small café. Their accommodation included damp walls, no central heating and hot water bottles came in the form of hot bricks wrapped in newspaper. When she was 10 her father died and she and her mother managed to keep the café going with Anne Marie, who was good at maths, keeping the books. As the Germans advanced at the start of World War II, she fled with her mother, aunt and cousins, cycling first to Paris and then west to Nantes, a distance of around 334 miles. At one point the line of refugees were strafed by German planes, and Anne Marie and her family jumped into a ditch to escape; others were not so lucky - many were killed, and cars burnt out. They arrived in Nantes at the same time as the Germans and so decided to cycle back home! Their café had been looted, Anne Marie's cello was gone - all that was left was the bow - but they managed to get the café up and running again. Shortages of food and fuel were alleviated by the fact that her family (on both sides) were farmers.

At the end of the war Anne Marie, who could speak German, and a cousin went to work for the French Restitution Mission in Karlsruhe, Germany, where she met and married RAF officer Eric Rideal. Eric's work meant that they

were constantly moving house, first in France and then at airfield postings across England. The birth of Peter (1950) and Mimi (1954) kept Anne Marie busy. Eric was posted to manage RAF Tengah, Singapore in 1959. Here they seized the opportunity to travel to South Vietnam and Cambodia, including memorably, to Ankor Wat. Anne Marie always enjoyed traveling and has been all over Europe as well as Russia on the Trans-Siberian railway, China, Australia, South America and the USA.

Always being very active, Anne Marie has turned her hand to many different things from spinning, weaving, knitting and crochet to designing and making clothes including Alison's wedding dress, as well as being an excellent Bridge player.

In the 1950s she attended St Martin's School of Art, studying dress making and tailoring. In the 70s she was a French secretary and learnt about the importation business, subsequently setting herself up as an agent for French ceramic tiles. Then she designed and oversaw the building of a small holiday home on Elba Italy. Unfortunately, Anne Marie suffered from increasing deafness and finally, without functional hearing, she had a cochlear implant in 2012 which has been hugely beneficial. Apparently, she is the oldest person in the UK (and possibly in the world) with a cochlear implant!

Having always enjoyed swimming, she swims weekly at Ashely Wood Farm pool with Peter and Alison, afterwards enjoying a meal of moules frites and an affogato at The Crown. **Quite a life!**

Alison Rideal

Anne Marie and her husband in 1959



NEWS FROM OUR PCSO GARY WILLIAMS

Gary was keen to tell us about a new approach to Policing in Avon and Somerset called 'Project Servator' involving the police, businesses and the public working together to make it difficult for criminals and terrorists to operate.

It is the name given to unpredictable, highly visible police deployments, designed to disrupt a wide range of criminal activity. The tactics aim to identify and disrupt 'hostile reconnaissance' - the information gathering a criminal does when planning a criminal or terrorist act.

Each deployment is different. From varying numbers of uniformed, plain clothed or firearms officers with back-up support from police dogs, horses, CCTV operators, drones, etc.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Gary tells us that if there is a **Project Servator deployment** in our area; don't worry, you can play a vital role by being the extra eyes and ears for the police. Report anything that doesn't feel right. Tell a police officer or member of staff immediately. Don't leave it to someone else to report it.

To find out more or report something suspicious, speak to a police officer or a member of security, call 101 or go to www.avonandsomerset.police.uk. In an emergency always call 999.

Maureen Breeze



image: www.freepik.com

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IN THE GARDEN

with Kevin Marris



Is it too late to wish you a happy New Year?

No, I don't think so. So, happy gardening to you and I hope we get the weather that allows us to get out there.

My New Year's resolution is to stop complaining about the weather – because funnily enough, complaining doesn't actually improve the climate. So, let's just get on with it.

A little over a year ago we had that very cold spell that caught me by surprise, and I thought I had lost a whole lot of pot plants. But a number that looked dead, revived in the spring, sending up new shoots from below the surface. So, there was no need to go beating myself up and worrying. And anyway, if I lose a few plants, isn't that just an excuse to go out and buy some more, but different ones?

I was in Bathford Nurseries the other day and got chatting to Tony (Norris) and I was

curious about what they get up to in the winter months. Does he get a winter break? Go skiing in St Moritz or sunning himself in the Bahamas? Absolutely not! He tells me they are busy all through the winter cleaning and tidying, reorganising the buildings, repairing things including bits of storm damage, checking stock and deciding what to order for next season. And before you know it, March will be knocking on the door, and all your winter plans will still be just that. Plans.

In fact, what they are doing is the same list of things that I (and you) should be doing in the greenhouse and around the garden during the winter months. Except of course for one little exception - the VAT!

It's a good job pottering in the garden is my hobby - I would never have made a living from gardening. Yes, I know, I probably wouldn't make a living from writing either!

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BATHEASTON GARDEN GROUP

Talk entitled "Attracting Garden Pollinators"

19:30 Wednesday 21 February at Bathford Parish Hall.

Award-winning garden writer **Jean Vernon** will talk about the important role that pollinators play in the garden and how gardens of any size can provide a source of food and shelter that will attract and support these beneficial insects.

Jean writes on gardening and wildlife for the **RHS The Garden** magazine and has written two books: **The Secret Lives of Garden Bees** and **Attracting Garden Pollinators**.
www.thegreenjeanie.com

All welcome, talks are free to members. Non-members £5, pay on the door, no need to book.

Batheaston Garden Group welcomes new members from all parts of Bath and the surrounding area.

Please visit our website for details of our 2024 programme and information on becoming a member. www.batheastongardengroup.co.uk



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FEBRUARY READING

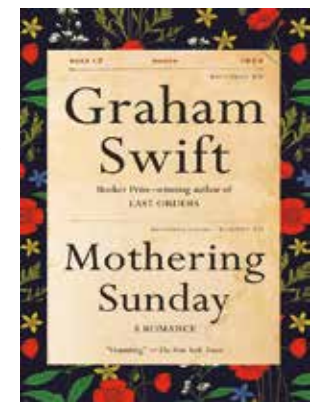
Not all love stories conclude happily with the words: "Reader, I married him." In St Valentine's month, revel in these subtle and imaginative depictions of love and longing and loss.

Free Love by Tessa Hadley (2023)

In 1967 Phyllis Fischer is leading a decorous, suburban life with her clever, diplomat husband and their schoolboy son and teenage daughter when she falls absolutely in flagrant love with a young man in his twenties, the son of old friends. During the dramatic repercussions of their affair and Phyllis's desertion of her family, it is not only her desires which Hadley explores but also those of her cuckolded husband and her abandoned children. Her intellectual and sexual awakening comes at a cost, yet her fulfillment is undeniable.

Mothering Sunday by Graham Swift (2016)

It is March 30th in 1924. Swift recounts the crucial events of one day in the life of a young woman, adopting her viewpoint with moving and tender skill. Jane Fairchild, born a foundling, now a housemaid, has the day free without a mother to visit. Instead, she enjoys a passionate assignation with her secret lover and friend, Paul Sheringham, an upper-class youth, who is destined to marry another woman from his own social group. Though this momentous day ends in tragedy, it gives Jane new strength to transcend her circumstances and grasp at life in unexpected ways.



A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway (1929)

Hemingway's elegiac novel, influenced by his own WW1 experiences, describes the impact of war on Lieutenant Frederic Henry, an American serving in the Italian Ambulance Corps who meets an English nurse, Catherine Barkley. Despite his resolution not to become involved and her grief for her dead fiancé, they form an ardent attachment and hope for a future together. Disillusioned with fighting after witnessing the chaotic Italian retreat from Caporetto (1917), Henry deserts and the couple flee to Switzerland for some idyllic months. But they have not escaped personal suffering; the story's moving ending is recounted in Hemingway's distinctive, unflinching style.



By Isobel Lawes



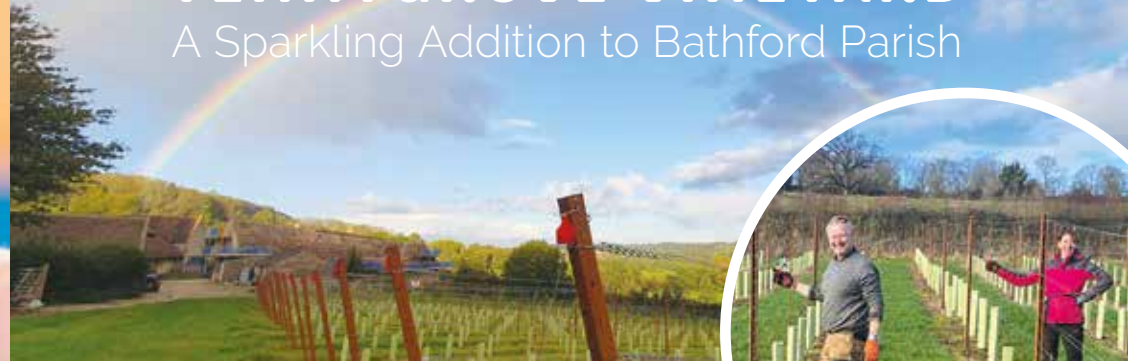
AFTERNOON TEA

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TENNYGROVE VINEYARD

A Sparkling Addition to Bathford Parish



On a south-east-facing, sunny slope across the valley from Bathford village, Ally and Rupert Walsh are hoping to turn a cinematic dream into reality with Tennygrove Vineyard. The journey began when the couple purchased Upper Shockerwick Farm, partly influenced by a casual comment from the selling agent about its potential for wine production.

For the past decade, Ally and Rupert have nurtured their dream of owning a vineyard, fuelled by an annual tradition of watching the movie 'A Good Year.' This dream found its home on **Upper Shockerwick Farm**, perched above Shockerwick House care home, perhaps returning the land to grape growing from Roman times.

After some wisdom imparted by Tony at **Mumfords Vineyard** (now returned to a wildflower meadow), they decided to take the plunge. In May 2023, Tennygrove Vineyard was planted, facing its first summer with resilience against the lovely Somerset weather – first enduring a drought and then excessive rain. The vineyard is primarily planted with chardonnay vines, complemented by pinot noir and pinot meunier,

carefully chosen to thrive in their unique limestone and clay soil.

Ally and Rupert describe themselves as enthusiastic amateurs, so have enlisted the expertise of an experienced contracted Vineyard Manager. From pruning and shoot selection to mowing and weeding, every detail is handled with precision, preserving the natural beauty and existing wild meadow landscape.

As the vines mature, the Walshes invite the community to join them on **volunteer days**, providing a hands-on experience in the vineyard's journey. All equipment, training, and lunch are provided, fostering a sense of community around the shared dream of Tennygrove.

With fair weather and a bit of pest management (cue runner ducks and hens!) the first harvest is expected in **autumn 2025**, when they hope to start bottling English Sparkling, and perhaps a still rosé or white depending on the weather and the harvest.



Ally and Rupert would love you to stay updated with Tennygrove Vineyard's progress. Follow them on **Instagram or Facebook (@tennygrove_vineyard)** or get in touch by email hello@tennygrove.com if you'd like to be the first to hear of their volunteer days.

Ally & Rupert Walsh



image: www.freepik.com

Do you care about the Climate?
Are you worried about energy bills?
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impactful action

How does it work?

Five free, simple, supported small-group sessions to
explore your power to make a positive difference, in the
way that suits you best using an activity pack with
well-researched resources

What is Eco Together?

A project run by volunteers helping to find solutions to the
eco-crisis by bringing people together - hosted by the eco
charity Transition Bath.

If you would like to join in setting up a local group please make
contact: Gillian Bebber: 22 Church St. | Email: gillianbebber@gmail.com

image: wirestock www.freepik.com



www.ecotogether.info/ecotogether2030

images: www.freepik.com



ARE YOU A FAN OF THE BBC'S REPAIR SHOP?

If you've been fascinated by the TV programme and thought "I could do that" or wished that it was available locally and perhaps have something you'd like repaired, then the Repair Cafe scheme may be for you.

Some background - I got involved with the charity Bath Share & Repair by volunteering as a repairer at the monthly Repair Cafe they run in Corsham.

Basically, anyone can turn up with some portable item that they'd like to get repaired, and the volunteers do their best to fix them. What's remarkable is that some **70% of the things that turn up are repaired**, saving unnecessary landfill waste and reducing resource consumption. It also provides a valuable service to the community and given that there is no charge (other than the cost of spares or an optional charitable donation), it provides a welcome helping hand in these cash-strapped times.

Having seen first-hand how successful the Repair Cafes are, I'd like to start a monthly Repair Cafe in Bathford and for this I'm going to need some enthusiastic volunteers who can spare a few hours on a Saturday morning once a month to help out. First and foremost, we need organisers (to meet & greet users and direct them to a repairer with appropriate skills) and then of course repairers (to actually do the repairs).

WHAT KIND OF SKILLS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

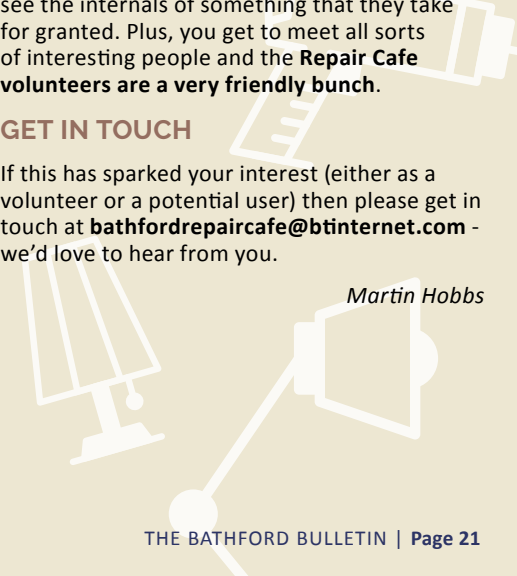
Typically, administration/organisation, electrical, electronic, computers, mechanical, joinery, general & sewing but don't be put off if you have some other marvellous skill that we haven't thought of or you'd just like to learn how to fix something from one of the other repairers. **There is also the potential to run a 'how to' session** for small groups e.g. replace a watch battery, grow & pot seedlings, learn to solder or replace a zipper.

Repairing things is immensely rewarding - users are very grateful and often fascinated to see the internals of something that they take for granted. Plus, you get to meet all sorts of interesting people and the **Repair Cafe volunteers are a very friendly bunch**.

GET IN TOUCH

If this has sparked your interest (either as a volunteer or a potential user) then please get in touch at bathfordrepaircafe@btinternet.com - we'd love to hear from you.

Martin Hobbs



BATHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from January's meeting

WARLEIGH AND SHOCKERWICK

A WECA (West of England Combined Authority) Fund for rural communities is open for projects specifically for these two areas deemed 'rural' by DEFRA. If there are community projects that would benefit from funding between £10K and £40K, can you please notify the Council as soon as possible via the Clerk as requests need to be submitted by mid-February. clerk@bathford.net

HIGH STREET PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

The Crossing has been warmly received by residents and particularly by the schoolchildren at Bathford School who wrote to the Council to say 'Thank you' for helping to create a safer passage to school. Thanks too, to those who displayed advance warning signs for the crossing outside their homes along the High Street.



Bathford pupils with the new 'Parking Buddies'

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

There has been a recent spate of accidents in the Parish over the Christmas and New Year period. The recent inclement weather has had a detrimental effect on driving conditions, but this only serves to amplify the need for greater efforts to enhance speed limit enforcement and to reduce driving speed limits throughout the Parish. The Council is continually working with BANES Highways to have infrastructure installed.

OSTLINGS LANE CLOSURE

The heavy downpours have resulted in Wessex Water discharging sewage into the Avon through storm overflows - designed to act as relief valves when the sewerage system is at risk of being overwhelmed when a lot of rainwater runs into drains and the sewerage system in a short space of time. The exploratory works at the bottom of Ostlings Lane are preparatory for building an underground reservoir to hold the excess rainwater during downpours and reduce the sewage overflows into the Avon from 68 occasions last year to a target of 10 in the future.

TREE CUTTING

BANES has been informed of the need for cutting back trees growing across the Footbridge at By Brook and along Ashley Road on the section past the farm developments.

D-DAY 80TH ANNIVERSARY

June 6, 2024, marks the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings by allied forces in Normandy that changed the fortunes of World War II. The Council feels that it is an anniversary worth marking by the Parish. If people have any suggestions for ways to mark the anniversary or would be willing to volunteer their time or participate in any activities, please contact the Clerk via clerk@bathford.net

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 19 February 19:00

Bathford School

Residents are welcome to attend and raise matters with the Council in the first ten minutes.

The Bathford Bulletin and Bathford Parish Council cannot accept responsibility for the goods and services advertised.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

DATE TIME	DETAILS VENUE
Thurs 1, 8, 15, 22 Feb	Jamadou – Jam session with Amodou Diagne. Open to all – The Crown, Bathford
Sat 3 Feb 14:15	6 Nations Rugby: Italy v England – Village Club
Sun 4 Feb 10:00	Holy Communion – St. Swithun's Church
Sun 4 Feb 17:30	Re:Connect – For Year 7 pupils to get together: table tennis, games, discussion, prayers and refreshments – St. Swithun's Church
Thur 8 Feb 19:45	Bathford Choir – practice resumes (weekly Thursdays) – Parish Hall
Sat 10 Feb 16:45	6 Nations Rugby – Italy vs England – Village Club
Sat 10 Feb 20:30	Valentine's Do – Lucy Harvey, vocalist, entertainer – Village Club
Sun 11 Feb 10:00	Contemporary Service – St. Swithun's Church
Sun 11 Feb 15:00	Gregory Steward, Tenor – St. John's Batheaston
Sun 11 Feb 16:00	Afternoon Praise. A service especially for children aged 4-11 and families – St. Swithun's Church
Tues 13 Feb 15:30-17:00	Freshly made crêpes – Village Shop Café
Weds 14 Feb 19:00	Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion with Ashing – St. Swithun's Church
Thurs 15 Feb 19:30	Peter Pan Pantomime – Parish Hall
Fri 16 Feb 19:30	Peter Pan Pantomime – Parish Hall
Fri 16 Feb 19:30	Bingo – Village Club
Sat 17 Feb 13:30 and 18:00	Peter Pan Pantomime – Parish Hall
Sun 18 Feb 10:00	Service of Holy Communion – St. Swithun's Church
Tues 20 Feb 12:00	Lunchtime Lent Talk: 'Music Therapy', Adrian Snell – St. John's Church, Batheaston
Weds 21 Feb 19:30	Batheaston Garden Group Presentation: 'Attracting Garden Pollinators', Jean Vernon – Parish Hall
Fri 23 Feb 10:00	Auction: Fine Art and Antiques – Auctioneum Sales Room, Box Road, Bathford
Fri 23 Feb 20:00	Jazzford Jam: Jazz Evening with local musicians – Village Club
Sat 24 Feb 16:45	6 Nations Rugby: Scotland vs England – Village Club
Sat 24 Feb 20:30	Jason Lee – Entertainer – Village Club
Sun 25 Feb 10:00	Welcome Church - all ages are very welcome – St. Swithun's Church
Sun 25 Feb 16:30	Evening Prayer – refreshments served at 16:00 – St. Swithun's Church
Mon 26 Feb 10:00	Auction: Home Antiques and Collectibles – Auctioneum Sales Room, Box Road, Bathford
Mon 26 Feb 14:00	Film Club: 'The Great Escaper' with Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson – St. Swithun's Church
Mon 26 Feb 20:00	Bathford Society: Batheaston ByPass and its Archaeology – Parish Hall
Weds 28 Feb 12:00	Lunchtime Lent Talk: 'Environment', A Rocha (tbc) – St. Swithun's Church

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