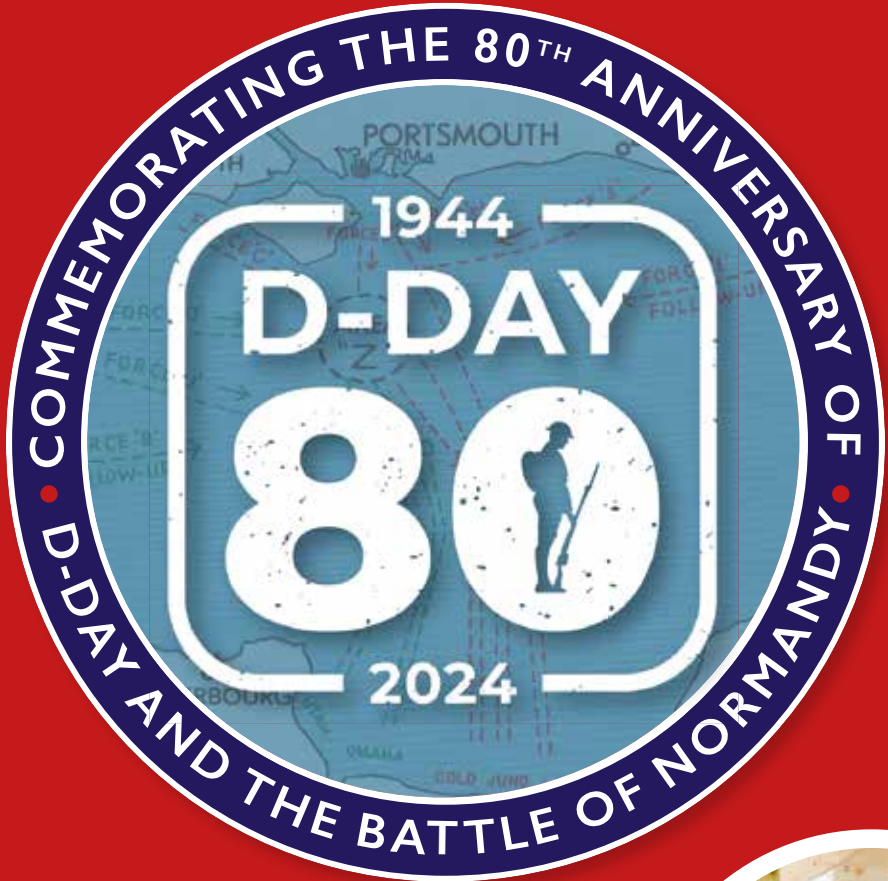


JUNE 2024

The Bathford Bulletin

For the residents of Bathford, Shockerwick and Warleigh



**A CELEBRATION OF
THE NATURAL WORLD**

DON'T MISS THE FESTIVAL OF NATURE
DETAILS ON PAGE 9



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The Editorial Team

Hillary Carr - Editor & Advertising
Maureen Breeze - Editor
Helen Keelty - Editorial
Kath Shayler - Creative
Sarah Appleton - Publishing
Adrian Raybould - Editorial

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.

July issue copy deadline

Contributions and advertisements are welcome, up to but no later than **15 June** 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 our JUNE edition

Recently we've been blessed with a stunning display of the aurora borealis over Bathford and then had to endure more wet weather. Just as we're settling into Summer, we have a General Election thrust upon us!

This month we have yet another feast of diverse activities to enjoy for all ages. Adults and children alike will love the Festival of Nature (page 9). On **8 June**, their extensive programme includes a 'greening up' in Milsom Street in Bath.

Oh my, how you love a Quiz! The ongoing challenges to our 'grey matter' continue on **June 14** and **July 12** - see inside and What's On (page 23).

We put out a call to all pet owners on page 19. We want to write an article about people and their pets for a future issue, so if you would like to see your pet in print, send in your stories, favourite dog walks, anecdotes and photos.

This June is a month for both remembrance and celebration at the same time. Whilst we mourn the loss of dear friends Jean Vesey and Eric Green, we celebrate their lives and their significant contribution to our community. Similarly, the **80th anniversary of D-Day** engenders a sense of remembrance both for the lives lost and a celebration of the incredible achievement that led to the liberation of Europe in WWII. Please support the celebratory Village Club events on **6 June** (page 12) and **8 June** (page 5).

The general election on 4 July offers all those of voting age the opportunity to voice an opinion and a say in who may govern our nation. Make sure that you're registered to vote or arrange a postal vote if you are going to be away. Educate and guide young voters who may be voting for the first time, as this is their opportunity to influence who determines their futures - politically and socially.

After all, it's thanks to those who fought, died or survived D-Day that they strove to preserve our democratic rights that we enjoy today.

Editorial Team

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Flaming June, please, please, we're due some sunshine! Lots on at The Village Club in June, please do come and join in.

Thursday 6 June 19:00 | D-Day 80th Anniversary

Presentation – Bathford, Bath and the Tree of Wisdom – by Colonel (retired) Simon Browne OBE

Saturday 8 June 14:00 - 18:30 | 80th Anniversary Commemoration of the D-Day Landings. Let's come together as a community to remember what should never be forgotten! We know from our very own D-Day Veterans that they loved it being celebrated with a party, so that's what we'll do.

Live Music | Just Frank – 14:30 – 17:00

Childrens Disco | 17:00 – 18:00

Bar | 13:30 – 19:30

PLUS: BBQ | Face Painting | Colouring Activities Raffle | Ice Cream Van | Tea & Coffee | Cake Stall

This event is open to all please come and make it memorable.

SATURDAY NIGHTS MEANS LIVE MUSIC – 20:30

Saturday 1 June | Bev May – a brilliant female vocalist covering many tracks from the years – something for everyone

Saturday 15 June | Ryan Turner – a firm favourite at the club – an excellent male vocalist

Saturday 29 June | Madel – another firm favourite – a superb lady singer

BINGO

Friday 21 June – 19:30

Always a brilliant evening with lots of fun and lots of winners – prize money totalled over £250 in May

£5 for a book of 4 games and 2 flyers – 12 chances of winning

JAZZFORD JAM

Friday 27 June – 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 – it is always such an entertaining evening with a wonderful atmosphere.

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.

Charity Action at St Swithun's



Bathford Parish Hall

19:30 Friday 14 June 2024

£12 to include snacks and a 2 course supper
Bar for drinks

All proceeds to Dorothy House and Mary's Meals

Tickets available from the Village Shop

Further information call Charlotte: 01225 852858 or Liz: 01225 859598



TWINNING NEWS

Huge thanks to all of you that came to our sell-out quiz night last month. It wasn't a fundraiser, but we still managed to add £350 to our Eker bursary fund to enable young people from Bathford to visit Artannes-sur-Indre.

We can confirm that a group of 16 will be here from Artannes between the 6 and 10 July. We have enough hosts now, but invite you all to take part in activities while they are here. Please email for the full programme.

Finally, please come along to our French cheese and wine tasting, which will be preceded by a short **AGM at 18:30 on Sunday 9 June in the Parish Hall.** Everyone welcome.

Email: bathfordtwinningassociation@gmail.com



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HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN



BOOKS! We have well over 1000 paperbacks available for just £1 each. These can be viewed at our house in Dovers Park. All are in good condition, so please give a ring if you would like to see them.

In store at Corsham are many books including folio, atlases, encyclopaedias, dictionaries, gardening and nature, biographies; there are books on most subjects, so if you have a particular wish please phone and we will happily show you the whole range.

It is intended to have another book sale at the school during the next couple of months, but please do arrange a viewing before then. There are several thousand available and most are in pristine condition, all suitable as gifts to deserving friends.

We are working hard to raise money for **Hope and Homes for Children** whose work in war torn countries like Ukraine and neighbouring countries, is still stretching their resources to the limit.

Your help can make a real difference.

We also have plastic chairs and circular tables if you would like to borrow them for an event you may be holding.

Do contact Julia and Keith Masdin for more information **Tel: 01225 858042**
Email: keithmasdin@btinternet.com

Thank you!



Image: www.freepik.com

NEW DX1 BUS SERVICE

If you have not yet tried the DX1 bus from Bathford Bridge to Bradford or Trowbridge, then give it a try. It's £2 a journey – unless you are lucky enough to have a bus pass!

Here is the timetable at the time of writing:

Mon-Fri	Sats	Mon-Fri	Sats
05:31	05:41	12:42	12:45
06:38	06:42	13:43	13:47
07:33	07:35	14:43	14:47
08:25	08:32	15:49	15:47
09:35	09:31	16:53	16:47
10:44	10:44	18:04	18:01
11:42	11:44	18:59	19:09

Return buses are more frequent.

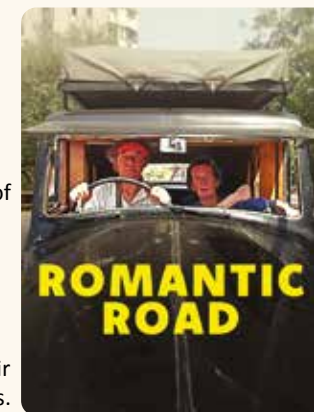
Here is the link to the full timetable: <https://bustimes.org/services/d1x-bath-city-centre-trowbridge-north-bradley?date=2024-05-25&service=D1x>

Film Club

St Swithun's Bathford film for June is 'Romantic Road' (2022). The ultimate road film of adventure, respect and affirmation. A couple take their battered 1930's Rolls Royce across India, retracing their trip from the 1950's.

Join us on **Monday 24 June at 14:00** in the Church and enjoy this uplifting and endearing film, followed by complimentary tea and cake (suggested donation £3).

No need to book - just come along. Any queries phone Ann Wade on 07766 554649.



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FESTIVAL OF NATURE

2024

Saturday 1st - Sunday 9th June

The UK's largest celebration of the natural world returns to Bristol and Bath this summer!



The Festival of Nature is an annual science festival in the UK and will be taking place from 1-9 June.

Wildlife walks, nature workshops and film screenings are among the events happening in B&NES as part of the festival.

Below are some tasters but check the festival website for the full programme: www.bnhc.org.uk/festival-of-nature or the B&NES Council website

12:00-16:00 - Bath Assembly Rooms.
An afternoon of talks featuring Cam Whitnall: My Wild Life, Jon Chase: Science Rapper; Turi King on ancient/forensic DNA research and hedgehog expert and ecologist, Hugh Warwick.

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

Community Day.
Events in multiple locations across the West of England to celebrate the actions for nature being taken at community level.

Online events include a talk on Eurasian Otter Conservation; How to Plan a Walk and a Get Crafty with Nature session which is designed to offer disabled adults and those with chronic fatigue a chance to get creative and connect to nature from their home.

TUESDAY 4 JUNE

Bath Central Library: Nature Story times and an exciting nature trail (which runs all week).

SATURDAY 8 JUNE

11:00-17:00 - A 'greening up' of Milsom Street, with family-friendly nature stalls and activities including the World's Smallest Wildlife Film Festival offering families an opportunity to learn about the natural world and how they can help it flourish.





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Remembering

JEAN VESEY AND ERIC GREEN OF DOVERS PARK

In our May Bulletin, we announced the deaths of Jean Vesey and her partner Eric Green.


Both lived in Bathford for many decades and, being a very popular and well-known couple, we would like to celebrate their lives and their contribution to village life.

Originally from Cheshire, Jean married and moved south in 1970 when her husband, Bob, took a job with Avon Polymers. They bought a house in Dovers Park which had been Jean's home ever since. First and foremost an amazing mum, Jean worked whilst bringing up a family of four, including jobs with Directory Enquiries, the Milk Marketing Board (collecting milk samples from local farms) and Ladbrokes in Snow Hill as a cashier using her astounding mental arithmetic! After retirement, she had a rewarding role in **Witness Support** and was an active **Parish Councillor**; many may remember her campaigning against closure of the **Tyndale Nursing Home**. Passionate for supporting the underdog, Jean weaved her way through life generously guiding, helping and inspiring many, always looking forward and embracing change.

Following Bob's death, Jean and Eric met by chance during a football match that blossomed into a lifelong romance. Already retired when he moved to Bathford in 1995, Eric took up many roles to help with the smooth running of the village. Being a retired **Police Detective** (see photo of Eric as a "bobby" in Lancashire) with that 'air of authority', he had a keen interest in keeping the village safe and along with Jean, was a **Neighbourhood Watch volunteer**. Other roles included a stint as a **paperboy** and donning his hi viz as a **litter picker**. Eric most enjoyed his regular shift at the **Village Shop** and the Shop was able to return the favour when his mobility became challenging, regularly delivering groceries including his favourite sweets, chocolate éclairs. Eric loved travel ('have bus pass will travel' became his motto) and sport (a Burnley supporter) with a top jockey as a grandson Paul Hanagan).

Both Jean and Eric were very special people with lots of friends in the village. They loved living here in Bathford, and we are grateful for and will miss the support that they have offered down the years.

*Photos from left to right
A recent photo of Jean Vesey | Eric Green - a "bobby" in Lancashire
Eric Green's 90th birthday celebration | Eric and Jean - a lifelong romance
Jean Vesey enjoying her 80th birthday*

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DON'T MISS THESE EVENTS...



80
D-DAY 6 JUNE 2024
 19:00
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 Col. Simon Browne OBE presents
Bath, Bathford and the Tree of Wisdom
 £5 entry



Bathford Events Group
QUIZ NIGHT
 FRIDAY
 12TH JULY
 VILLAGE CLUB
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 Teams of up to 6 members or
 come and join a team
 Snack food to be served and raffle



BEFA (Bathford Enterprise for All)

PART OF A WORLD-WIDE MOVEMENT



“What is BEFA?” seems to be a common question these days. **Bathford Enterprise for All** is the name of the co-operative which is your village Shop. “I didn’t know the Shop is a co-operative” is often the follow-on comment. And then sometimes the next question is “what does being a co-operative actually mean?”

Well, in our Shop’s case, it’s a group of people who have voluntarily come together to provide a much-needed (and now much-loved) Shop for our village. Without this group of people, we wouldn’t have a Shop as the village simply isn’t big enough to support a fully commercial retail enterprise. “Aha!” I hear you say. “That’s why the Shop is full of amazing volunteers!” Yes – exactly! The Shop has **70+ active volunteers** working to serve the community, without whom the Shop couldn’t stay open.

If you live in Bathford you can buy a share in the Shop which will make you a member of the BEFA co-operative, and you can have a say in what the Shop gets up to. And, you should also consider volunteering. If you would like to keep the Shop in the village, then please offer to help. It’s more than just ‘use it or lose it’ – it’s ‘help it or lose it’! So if you’re not a **BEFA member**, or a **volunteer in the Shop** – why not?

So, did you realise that BEFA is one of 3 million co-ops around the world -7000 of them being in the UK - that have around 1.2 billion members? We are not unique but share our different ways of doing business with co-ops in pretty much every industry all over the globe – from healthcare to housing, renewable energy to retail and sports to social care and Credit Unions. And they are every shape and size from multi-billion-pound businesses to small community enterprises such as BEFA. Members can be the customers, employees, residents or suppliers.

All co-ops are Member owned and controlled, driven by values, not just profit. Members decide democratically, with each Member having one vote. No matter the type of Co-op. all have the same enterprise model based on globally agreed principles that rest on a foundation of shared ethical values. **Profits generated are either reinvested in the enterprise, returned to the Members or used to enhance the communities they serve.**

2024 is the 180th anniversary of what is commonly known as the ‘birth’ of the Co-operative Movement; the opening up of the first co-operative shop in Toad Lane, Rochdale in 1844, which was set up by local people to meet a social need, just like BEFA has.

Since 1923, every year at the beginning of July, co-operatives around the world come together and celebrate the **International Day of Co-operatives**. We hope we can play our part in that celebration this year. Watch out in the Shop nearer the time, and don’t forget – become a Member, or volunteer some of your time. **Or maybe even both!**

SUMMER AT THE VILLAGE SHOP

We are finally feeling that the summer is arriving, the Parish is buzzing with various activities and people are out and about more.

We receive many compliments on the diversity of products we offer in our Shop, and we are committed to enhancing the range with your valuable input. We encourage you to share your suggestions with us – **just add what you want to our stock request list.**

As an independent shop, we face challenges in sourcing products, but we always strive to meet the need of our customers. By supporting us and shopping with us regularly, you contribute to our efforts to keep prices competitive and the Shop thriving. Whether you are new to the village or have yet to explore our offerings, we urge you to visit us and experience the quality and variety we have to offer.



Photo credit: Hillary Carr



AUCTION OF PROMISES

RAISES OVER £4,000 FOR BATHFORD SCHOOL

Last month, Friends of Bathford School ('FOBS') held an Auction of Promises at the Auctioneum on the Box Road, where the staff, services and building were all generously provided for the event. It was a resounding success, with the 'Diddy Auctioneers' helping to secure the bids and contributing to a fantastic atmosphere in the auction room. FOBS were overwhelmed by the amazing generosity of the pupils, families

and local businesses for the lots that were donated, and the successful bidders, who contributed so unreservedly. In excess of £4,000 was raised for the School, which is a result that all involved can be very proud of. Some of the amazing lots on offer included champagne afternoon teas, a multitude of gastronomic feasts delivered to your door, 3 nights at a holiday cottage and a year's placement at Stagecoach school.

FOBS next event: Our annual Summer Fair, which takes place on Sat 15 June from 14:00 to 17:00. There will be a host of activities for children to enjoy including a bouncy castle, face painting, games and the infamous jungle jars,

accompanied by a bbq and licensed bar. There will also be an assortment of stalls selling a range of goods and entertainment provided by the pupils.

For further information about FOBS and the events that we run, please visit www.friendsofbathfordschool.org.uk

James Richards, Chair FOBS



CEILIDH

A great social gathering - a Ceilidh (kay-lee) - occurred on the evening of Friday 26 April at Bathford School. 'Jiggidy' provided the live music and a 'caller' who made everyone from the youngest to the oldest have a fun-filled night of music, lovely company and dancing - even for those with two left feet! There were many laughs along the way, but everyone tried, made mistakes, and tried again. The bar was a welcome pit stop to refresh energy levels and take a breather - thank you Friends of Bathford School.

Hopefully we will have another Ceilidh later this year or in 2025; so, come along and give it a go, join in the fun, you won't regret it.

Heather Lord-Carter



THE HOPE GUIDE

Jo Woodsford, the Service User and Carer Involvement Coordinator for BANES, tells us about a new publication, **The Hope Guide**. It contains a variety of signposting information to help local residents be better informed about local mental health and wellbeing opportunities, groups and services. It provides information on groups, activities and services run by volunteers and not for profit organisations. These groups are aimed at people who are socially isolated, are affected by mental health issues, substance misuse or homelessness.

The Guide includes:

- Health and wellbeing groups and activities
- Organisations supporting people in B&NES
- Local and national helplines

It is available to download here... www.bridges2wellbeing.co.uk/hope-guide

The Guide will be updated every six months and if there are local groups that would like to be included in the Guide going forwards please ask them to contact us at: baneshopeguide@gmail.com



AROUND THE GARDEN

with Kevin Marris



Oh, the agony, the mental torture!

There I was, ready to pile loads of stuff onto the compost heap, but when I pulled back the cover, there they were, the things that I am most pleased to see in the garden but haven't for a few years now - **slow worms**. So, what's the problem? Well,

when I load the compost heap, I usually start **slicing down** on it with a spade, **chopping the material** and **compacting the heap**, to help speed up the rotting process. But not when there are slow worms lying across the top. I don't want lots of bits of slow worm scattered through the heap – how would it look at the **Flower Show** if there was the head of a legless lizard peering back at you from my sample? (You mean you didn't know that compost is a category in the Flower Show? Tut, tut). So, I'll just have to risk

looking a little bit silly, gently and delicately layering **rhubarb leaves** and **grass cuttings** and all the other garden waste onto a pile of rotting garden matter, without disturbing my visitors.

Luckily there's always something in the garden that makes up for these small annoyances.

For example, another odd thing has occurred. There is a rambling rose doing very well at the back of the garage that fills that corner with fragrance later in summer. But one of the stems has found its way into the greenhouse through a window that doesn't close properly. And of course, that one stem has benefitted enormously from the conditions inside its new shelter. So now I have rose blossoming inside the greenhouse, giving off its scent, while outside the rest of the plant is covered with buds, all still tightly furred, waiting for summer.



BUY BACK YOUR RECYCLED GARDEN WASTE

Ever wondered what happens to the garden waste collected by the Council? The answer is revealed in one of BANES' marketing messages – the garden waste is taken to two local farms, one in Yate and the other near Wells, where it is composted under controlled conditions to produce a compost that meets the leading industry accreditation for compost quality. It is then offered back to BANES' residents in the **Reuse Shop** at the **Keynsham Reuse and Recycling Centre** for **£4 per 40-litre bag**. The shop is open **Tuesday to Friday 09:00 to 15:30** and **Saturday 09:30 to 15:00**. This is a bit of a drive from Bathford but well worth thinking about if you are ever in Keynsham.

Compost image: www.freepik.com

FROM ST SWITHUN'S

Dear Friends

I wonder what kind of creative things you enjoy?

Some people get stuck into the garden and all its delights, some people read voraciously, and others remember the joy of making something – music, poetry, embroidery, painting.... If this resonates with you then this is an appeal for your ideas....

We are planning to have a Nativity Crib Festival in St Swithun's later this year - hopefully lots of Nativity scenes for people to come and see. The set might be knitted - there are some great patterns available. I'm hoping the school will make some, individuals or families might get creative with Lego or painted stones, or you might simply have a lovely Nativity Set that you bought when on holiday. When I've held these festivals before, there is always a set that has been in the family for years and now has random additions and subtractions - a unicorn instead of a donkey is my favourite so far. Jesus, Mary and Joseph are essential but there might also be Shepherds, Angels, Wise Men, donkeys, camels and stars, with or without a stable...

This is advance notice to get knitting/painting/designing and more details will follow in the autumn.

Meanwhile, whenever you can, take some time to relax and enjoy being creative! Rev Laretta



CHARITY ACTION AT ST SWITHUN'S FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES

MYSTERY MEALS

The recent Mystery Meal programme was a resounding success and raised **£1188**, all of which will benefit **Genesis Foodbank in Bath**.

Thanks, in particular, are due to seven sets of hosts: Katherine Lush, Charlotte and James Bradshaw, Judy and Kevin Marris, Anne and Michael Gilbert, Rosemary and Jeremy Furber, Helen and John Keelty and Liz Townsend.

Each household selected delicious menus on a date of their choice to share with their guest diners. However, the 48 lucky attendees didn't know where or with whom they would be dining until the day of the event!

The Reverend Laretta Wilson presented the large cheque to Grainne Moher, Manager of Genesis Foodbank. Huge credit was expressed to the Bathford Bulletin for all the helpful publicity.



CAKE SALE

A cake sale was also held in St Swithun's Church in May. All proceeds are going to the charities supported by the Church. The wonderful sum of £365 was raised. Grateful thanks to all our marvellous bakers. Pictured are the organisers Jenny Matthews and Ann Wade.

QUIZ NIGHT

See page 5 for our upcoming charity quiz night on 14 June. Don't miss out!



PROPERTY

of the month



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match making
you with your
dream home
MELISSA ANDERSON



'Ralph Allen's quarry rail'

BATHFORD SOCIETY

Review of talk by Richard Irving: Combe Down stone mines

Being neighbours of the Combe Down stone mines, most of us in the large audience knew something about them. Richard, who is President of the Combe Down Heritage Society and has written on the subject, framed his talk in terms of three historical figures, two of whom were financially successful, and one of whom, though distinguished in his own right, came a financial cropper. **Ralph Allen** (who we all knew), rich from his successful launch of the postal service, grew richer in his development of the stone mines, **Prior Park** being only part of his legacy. He and all the other quarry masters had the advantage of a stone which, when freshly mined was soft and easily cut to shape, but when left outside, hardened and could be used for building. The second character,

Philip Nowell, an outstanding master stone mason, enriched himself on the extensions of **Longleat House**, then amongst others, **Windsor Castle** and **Apsley House**, the home of the Duke of Wellington. Finally, there was **William Smith**, the father of English geology who produced the first geological map of Great Britain. He bought himself a quarry, and at the side of the **Somerset Coal Canal** (which connected to the Kennet and Avon), developed a machine for the simultaneous cutting of stone. He fell victim to economic recession and indirectly, the influence of Luddism, and was financially ruined. At the end we knew so much more about this fascinating history and about the art of quarrying.

Peter Martin



15 & 16 June, Walcot RFC

The three lucky winners drawn for the free Family Tickets were:

- Corinna Morgan - Mountain Wood
- Mel Harrill - Meadow Park
- Sue and Mike Costello - Garstons

PET TALES

We want to write an article about people and their pets for a future edition. The bond between our furry friends and their owners is immense - some even look like their beloved owners! So, if you would like to see your pet in print, send in your stories, favourite dog walks, anecdotes and photos to **bathfordbulletin@gmail.com**



BATHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Annual Parish Meeting 14 May 2024

A modest number of residents attended this year's Annual Parish Meeting.

Reports were available to read from the Council Committees prior to the start and there was a display of the development of the **Bathford Bulletin since 2020**, showing its transformation to the wonderful magazine you read today.

Council Chair Hillary Carr welcomed the ensemble, introduced the Councillors over the last 12 months and then the guest speakers for the evening:

- Sarah Warren, BANES Deputy Head and Ward Councillor
- Jessica Fox-Taylor – BANES Sustainable Transport
- Jill Gigg – Bathford Link
- Sue Costello and Emma Jackson – Bathford Players
- Jamie Feilden – Jamie's Farm

B&NES Council

Sarah gave an overview of the Local Plan to build 8,000 homes in the BANES area between now and 2040 and the potential impact for the Bathford

area. She then gave us details on the success of the **Clean Air Zone** initiative in Bath that has successfully seen a reduction of 26% in annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) within the zone and a reduction of 27% in the urban area outside the zone.

And Sarah finished on the current policies and initiatives being taken to address the **Climate Emergency**.

Jessica Fox-Taylor gave extensive details on the programme by BANES to extend the current distribution of **Tier electric bikes**



and scooters throughout the region and up to Bathford, likely by September 2024.

Jill Gigg made a representation for more co-ordinators and drivers on behalf of Link, the local organisation founded to provide transportation for anyone requiring assistance to attend medical appointments.

If you can contribute to Link in any way, please ring 07870 666582.



Jamie Feilden grew up in Warleigh, attended Bathford Primary School and developed a love for farming and wildlife before moving to London and becoming a teacher. It was there that he worked with vulnerable/challenged children which put him on the path to establishing a charity with a desire to improve wellbeing and mental health. This is done through the process of **'farming family therapy'** that includes lots of fresh air, lots of jobs that bring real satisfaction and really boosts children's self-esteem.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 17 June 19:00
Bathford School

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

Contact: clerk@bathford.net
Tel. 01225 858220

RIGHT ME HEARTIES!

A pirate and a witch made an appearance at the Annual Parish Meeting last month!

Bathford Players members Emma Jackson and Sue Costello gave the audience an entertaining update and left us with a couple of pleas.

Sue as the pirate had a motive to pressgang "a few o' you souls into joining us!"

We learned that the Players had been running "a mighty fine ship" out of the Parish Hall since 1965 and they would like to continue to do so, but they need a bit of help.

It is remarkable that the Players as the village amateur dramatic group, has been in existence for 59 years, staging 105 productions and entertaining over 35,000 people (though some of them may have come twice!).

As a general rule, there is a pantomime in February and a play in October; they've done everything from Cinderella to Dad's Army, and Peter Pan to Passion Plays.

They have been told that they offer the best value family pantomime in the area and people love (or moan) at the local jokes and laugh at seeing people they know dressed up in costume. "The pantos are a lovely February tradition and the best therapy any village could have against loneliness and isolation in winter!"

The pantomimes are often the first time children see a live performance and they love it when they can join the players on stage. Acting gives them confidence; they might start off as a little animal in Wind in the Willows, grow up to become one of Peter Pan's lost boys or even end up as the lead in Cinderella!



Putting on a play is a group effort, with people of all ages and generations - on stage, backstage, directing, on the bar, serving tea and coffee, costume making, set painting and setting up the stage. Since Covid, and maybe Netflix(!), numbers of active participants have dwindled and the Players are actively seeking directors, committee members (especially a treasurer) and anyone willing to join in in any way, no experience necessary!

So, whether you are seven or seventy, they hope you will join them. You are promised a warm welcome.

The second plea relates to equipment - one of the perennial challenges has been the stage. The current lovingly crafted stage blocks need six people, two days and carpentry skills to build the stage. This effort has been overcome in recent times by hiring a lightweight one, put up in 1.5 hours with safety rails, but it came at a cost, and it ate up the profit. The last two productions were well received, but both made a loss.

The Players would love help to raise money for a new stage for the Parish Hall which would be of great benefit to other groups in the Parish and also for people hiring the hall. If you would like to make a donation or help with fund raising, please contact Emma on 01225 858388 or email: thejacksonsbath@gmail.com

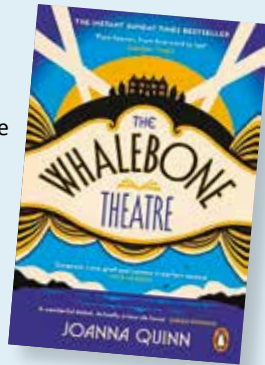


SUMMER READING

Under a summer sky, inhale some sea air and enjoy the lasting entertainment of three very different novels.

The Whalebone Theatre by Joanna Quinn (2022)

Life at Chilcombe is often extraordinary. Christabel Seagrave, growing up on the Dorset coast alongside her two step siblings, finds a beached whale. Inspired by their beloved storybooks and an émigré Russian artist, the children create a theatre inside the whale's enormous skeleton to stage magical summer productions, which continue until they reach adulthood. But in 1939, the war brings them sterner parts to play: Christabel and Digby see action in France as secret agents and Flossie joins the Land Army. Facing separation, they continue to cherish their special bond. Will it survive?



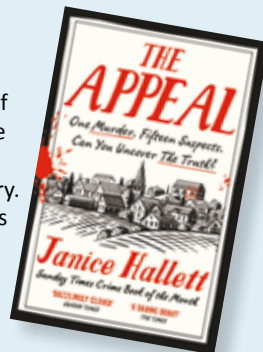
A View of the Harbour by Elizabeth Taylor (1947)

This Elizabeth Taylor is not the Hollywood screen goddess, but a distinguished writer admired by her 20th century contemporaries. Here she is concerned with the nuances of everyday life in a small, shabby, harbour town. Bertram has come to Newby to paint, and through him we meet the different residents, who all have a view of the harbour and of one another too. With warmth and wit, Taylor explores their inner lives, their emotional entanglements, sometimes their loneliness. When Bertram hangs his finished painting on the bar wall, the landlord declares: "Interesting what two people can make of the same view. We all see places a bit different to what the next man does."



The Appeal by Janice Hallett (2021)

Who has been murdered in Lower Lockwood and who is the killer? Two Law students must re-examine the facts of the crime to prevent a miscarriage of justice. Through the detailed evidence of e-mails, text messages, notes and newspaper cuttings, the reader can also solve this mystery. The documentation reveals the complicated relationships between members of an amateur theatre group, the Fairway Players, who are staging a production of Miller's All My Sons. The group is raising funds for Poppy's Appeal to buy expensive cancer treatment for the infant granddaughter of the Haywards, but not everyone trusts the process. A murderous power struggle reaches its climax after the disastrous dress rehearsal.



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

DATE	TIME	DETAILS	VENUE
Sat 1 - Sun 9 June		Various - www.bnhc.org.uk/festival-of-nature	Bath Festival of Nature
Sat 1 June	20:30	Live Music: Bev May	Village Club
Sun 2 June	10:00	Service of Holy Communion	St Swithun's Church
Sun 2 June	17:30	Re:Connect (Service for Year 7 pupils)	St Swithun's Church
Thu 6 June	19:00	D-Day Presentation 'Bathford, Bath and the Tree of Wisdom'	Village Club
Sat 8 June	14:00 - 18:30	D-Day 80th Anniversary Commemoration	Village Club
Sun 9 June	10:00	Contemporary Service	St Swithun's Church
Sun 9 June	16:00	Afternoon Praise (Children aged 4-11 and families)	St Swithun's Church
Sun 9 June	18:30	Twinning Association AGM	Bathford Parish Hall
Wed 12 June	11:20 - 12:05	Mobile Library	Dovers Park, by School
Fri 14 June	19:00	Charity Quiz Night	Bathford Parish Hall
Sat 15 and Sun 16 June		All day - Bath Rotary Festival of Motoring	Walcot Rugby Club, Lansdown
Sat 15 June	14:00 - 17:00	Summer Fair	Bathford School
Sat 15 June	20:30	Live Music: Ryan Turner	Village Club
Sun 16 June	10:00	Service of Holy Communion	St Swithun's Church
Mon 17 June	19:00	Parish Council Meeting	Bathford School
Fri 21 June	19:30	Bingo	Village Club
Sat 22 June	12:00 - 16:00	Batheaston Fete	Batheaston New Village Hall and Church Field
Sun 23 June	10:00	Morning Prayer	St Swithun's Church
Mon 24 June	14:00	Film Club - 'Romantic Road'	St Swithun's Church
Wed 26 June	11:20 - 12:05	Mobile Library	Dovers Park, by School
Thu 27 June	20:00	Live Music: Jazzford Jam	Village Club
Fri 28 June	10:00	Mid-Century Design and Interiors Auction	Auctioneum, Box Road
Sat 29 June	20:30	Live Music: Madel	Village Club
Sun 30 June	10:00	Benefice Songs of Praise (no service at St Swithun's)	St John's Batheaston

SAVE THE DATES

Weds 3 July	10:00	Advertising and Automobilia Auction	Auctioneum, Box Road
Sat 6 to Wed 10 July		Visit of Artannes families to Bathford	
Fri 12 July	19:30	Bathford Events Group Quiz Night	Bathford Village Club
Wed 4 Sep	17:00	Flower Show Entries	Bathford Parish Hall
Sat 7 Sep	14:30	Bathford Flower Show	Bathford School

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