

# Bathford Bulletin

BATHFORD

SHOCKERWICK

WARLEIGH



## OH YES THEY DID!

Bathford pantomime review page 16

OUR COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT  
SERIES CONTINUES

pages 12/13

DELICIOUS CRÊPE RECIPE

page 15





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Catherine Tait – Editorial  
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We welcome all articles, images and notifications of births, deaths and marriages. Please email for contributors guidelines: [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto: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** and have some spare time to help with the design and artwork? You would be most welcome! Email [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bathfordbulletin@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like to know more.

### APRIL ISSUE COPY DEADLINE

Contributions and advertisements are welcome, up to but **no later than 13 March 2025** via: [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto: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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### COVER PHOTOGRAPHS

The Bathford Players  
Pantomime

Photos by  
Charlie Matters



# WELCOME

Welcome to the March issue of your parish magazine, which we hope heralds the onset of spring and rebirth of nature – and much brighter weather!



But firstly, this issue is tinged with sadness at the news of the recent death of **John Lloyd**, following prolonged illness. John was known to many in the parish and some details of his life and contribution to the Bathford community can be found on [page 22](#).

Our ongoing **centrespread on the Bathford Community Heartbeat** this month features some of the diverse clubs, societies and organisations that help to make us a thriving, vibrant community. We praise the dedication of those who give of their time and effort generously and voluntarily to organise these. Maybe there is an activity to inspire you to join? There are so many to include that we are spreading them across both the March and April issues. [See pages 12/13](#).

The Panto season is behind you (see what I did there?). This year the **Bathford Players** are celebrating their **60th anniversary**; on [page 16](#) Judy Marris reviews this year's production of **Snow White** and conveys the fun and hard work that went into the performances to make it another superb success. Maybe it's time for you to turn your hand to treading the boards, or helping out backstage?

**Great news!** The **Bath Share and Repair** team will be establishing a regular monthly session in Bathford starting in **April**, so it's vital that we help make it a successful launch. Dig out those electrical appliances that have stopped working for unknown reasons, or that bit of sewing that needs doing, that toy you wanted to mend for your grandchild... anything goes. [See page 20](#) for details.

Editorial Team

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## THE BATHFORD QUILT

We are encouraged by the response to this idea featured in the February edition of the Bulletin.

There will be a meeting on **4 March at 10:00** in the **Village Shop Café** to discuss how to take plans further. Please contact us first to register your interest.

We are also looking for **donations of cotton fabric** and threads to get us started. Please search your stashes.

**For more information contact:**

**Wendy Freebourne 07814 016962**  
**Heather Gillard 07810 867155**  
**Ruth Holding 07966 507922**



*This beautiful quilt was completed by the Norland Community Sewing Bee – their contribution to the Grenfell Memorial Quilt project*



## ST. SWITHUN'S FILM CLUB

Join us at **St. Swithuns Church Bathford**, on **Monday 24 March at 14:00**, to see **FINDING YOUR FEET (12)** with **Imelda Staunton, Timothy Spall, Celia Imrie and Joanna Lumley.**

When Lady Sandra Abbott (Imelda Staunton) discovers that her husband is having an affair, she seeks refuge with her estranged bohemian sister (Celia Imrie). As a fish out of water, Sandra is at odds with her sister's free-spirited lifestyle, until she is persuaded to join Bif's dance class. Here, Bif and her friends Charlie (Timothy Spall), Jackie (Joanna Lumley) and Ted show Sandra that retirement is in fact only the beginning and that divorce might just give her a whole new lease of life and love.

**Stay after the film for complimentary tea and cake** (suggested donation £3).

We look forward to seeing you.

All enquiries email:

[keithmilner5@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:keithmilner5@yahoo.co.uk)



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**THE VILLAGE CLUB**  
Bathford

## THIS MONTH AT THE VILLAGE CLUB

Here we are in March. We've seen some snowdrops and the beginnings of daffodils – spring must be around the corner.

**SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE MUSIC – 20:30 TO 23:30**

**Saturday 1 March | Sharon Stanton**

An excellent female vocalist returning to the Club due to popularity

**Saturday 15 March | Play It Again Steve**

Always a great night covering tracks from across the decades

**Saturday 29 March | Andrea**

Another excellent female vocalist – a firm favourite with us

**Friday 14 March | Bingo 19:30 eyes down**

Always a great evening – full of fun and winners

**Friday 28 March | Jazz Night 20:00**

**Rugby Union - Six Nations**

Check our Facebook page to see which matches we are screening.



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## St Swithun's Charity Action MYSTERY MEALS

By popular demand the **Mystery Meals** are back! Having raised **£1170** for **Genesis Foodbank** last year, we are hoping to do even better for **Mary's Meals** this year.

The **Mystery Meals** are a sociable way to enjoy a home-cooked meal with others in Bathford – with an element of surprise! The series of fundraising lunch and supper parties in private houses will take place on **25, 26 April** and **1, 6, 7, 8 and 9 May**. A three-course meal including wine will cost £25pp.

As a participant, you choose a lunch or dinner menu and date from those available and reserve your place/s. On the morning of your meal, you will be called with the address of your hosts and you then go along for a lovely, friendly meal with your hosts and other surprise guests!

**Full menus with dates will be available in the April Bulletin** as well as on fliers obtainable in the Village Shop and the Church. For more details and booking, email Jeremy Furber: [jfurber40@gmail.com](mailto:jfurber40@gmail.com)

**Mary's Meals** is a charity that serves one nutritious school meal each day to **2.8 million children** who live in some of the world's poorest countries.

You are all warmly invited to take part. **Places are likely to sell out quickly, so don't delay booking!**



## ASK THE TRAINER

Your questions answered by Ali Creighton at Doodle Dogs Training

**Q. What rules affect me taking my dog on holiday?**

**A. None for Great Britain!**

However, Brexit complicated things and rules do apply to all dogs (including assistance dogs) travelling to the EU or NI. First off, you'll need an **Animal Health Certificate (AHC)** or a **Pet Passport**. Official veterinarians issue AHCs (at a cost) and your dog (over 12 weeks old) needs a **rabies vaccination 21 days before travel** and a **microchip**. AHCs are valid for 10 days to enter the EU/NI and for 4 months onward travel within the EU and return to Great Britain (GB). A new AHC is needed for every trip. Additionally, tapeworm treatment (time limits apply) is needed for travel to Finland, Ireland, NI, Malta or Norway. Pet Passports issued in GB no longer work but passports from NI and some other countries do.

**Check the government website for more details:** [www.gov.uk/taking-your-pet-abroad](http://www.gov.uk/taking-your-pet-abroad)

**Travelling home** requires the use of certain routes, certain carriers, a 'non-commercial declaration' and having all other paperwork and vaccinations correct. There are different rules for different countries and individual carriers have individual rules. Dogs may have to stay on the **car deck of ferries** or in the **hold of aeroplanes**, so consider separation anxiety. Check the fine details and country specifics thoroughly before you travel because errors in paperwork could see your pet stranded at home or abroad. Muzzle training may be required so check your breed/country combination e.g. Staffies must be muzzled in public in Germany and technically, all dogs should be muzzled in public in Italy. Take time to gently muzzle train your dog well before you travel.

**Happy holidays!**



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**PAY  
AS YOU  
GO**

Tuesday & Friday  
 3:30pm-7:30pm

## EXCITING NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE SHOP AND CAFÉ!

After struggling with our old ATM machine and frequent breakdowns, we're thrilled to announce the arrival of a brand-new ATM, which remains free to use! We hope this encourages more customers to visit, but we kindly ask that you limit withdrawals to **£100** to ensure others can enjoy the convenience too.

We're also continuously looking for **quality products** to expand our range. We're excited to introduce the local **Longman range of cheeses**, along with **Little's Flavoured Instant Coffee** and **Flavoured Coffee Pods**, as seen on Dragons' Den. Our local artist corner is growing as well, with creative glass stone greeting cards and unique handmade tote bags now available. **Be sure to stop by and see these wonderful new arrivals!**



This **Shrove Tuesday, 4 March**, from **15:30 to 17:00**, our fabulous **Twinning team of volunteers** will be in the café making delicious French-style pancakes. Come and enjoy freshly made crêpes with a variety of toppings, prepared right before your eyes. Have them hot off the stove and indulge in this tasty treat while you wait! **Takeaways available.**

**We're always open to suggestions or ideas**, as we strive to show our appreciation for our loyal customers while also welcoming new faces. If you haven't yet visited us, we'd love for you to drop by, have a look around, and chat with our enthusiastic volunteers.

Lastly, we're excited to announce that tickets for the **BEFA Annual Quiz Night** have sold out. **Thank you all for your incredible support!**

**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 but just as, or even more delicious with the usual pancake fillings!

Jointly organized by Bathford Twinning Association & BEFA Ltd sale proceeds goes to these two entities, to support Eker Bursary Fund, which supports young people from Bathford to travel to France.

Fillings: Netella, Chocolate, Caramel, Orange & Lemon Juice, Banana.

**3:30PM TO 5PM**

**£1-2 EACH**

**COME AND JOIN US!**

BATHFORD VILLAGE SHOP  
54 BATHFORD HILL BA1 7SN

**TUE 4 MARCH 2025**

**Spring**

**Spring Celebration**

**Friday 4 April**

**18:30- 21:30**

at The Bathford Village Shop Café

Limited Places | £30 per head

3-course sit down Spring Supper including wine

Plus, our popular Raffle with lovely prizes to raise funds for the Village Shop

Purchase your tickets in advance at the Bathford Village Shop from 9:00 on Tuesday 4 March (max 4 tickets per group)



# AUCTIONEUM

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES VALUATION DAY

Wednesday 19th March 10am - 3pm  
AT BROADLANDS FRUIT FARM, BOX RD,  
BATHFORD, BATH BA1 7LR

BRING ALONG | JEWELLERY | ANTIQUES | MEMORABILIA | HISTORIA  
CERAMICS | PAINTINGS | COLLECTABLES | BOOKS

Our team of valuers will be on hand from 10am to 3pm at our purpose built auction rooms in Bathford for complimentary valuations and auction advice.

Lots of parking, tea & coffee available with the team offering valuations, auction advice and of course accepting entries into our winter and spring calendar of specialist sales.



AUCTIONEUM OF BATH

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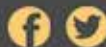
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## BATHFORD SOCIETY

Bathford Mill through the ages and today

by Paul Merrett, Portals' Mould Office Manager

It is a strange thought that Bathford Mill was mentioned in the Domesday Book, and it is still flourishing today. Through the years it has been used to process corn and as a fulling mill for wool. Somehow or other it migrated to making security paper which required China clay that had to be brought from Cornwall. The Bathford Paper Mill is one of the very few factories in the world that are able to produce the high-quality paper required for security documents such as passports. These papers feature high quality watermarks and hidden security features that are impossible to counterfeit. As their products are used to verify citizen identity, the site also maintains high levels of physical security.

We saw a video of the factory in the 1930s with wonderful steam lorries, which contrast with the works today that look space-age.



Portals Peace Day Outing 19 July 1919

Portals is committed to maintaining a pristine environment; the water drawn in from the By Brook for the manufacturing process is cleaner when it goes out and the immediate area is rewilded. The surrounds might well be recognised by those who, in their time, compiled the Domesday Book! Paul's talk left the audience enthralled.

Peter Martin

Bathford before the NHS, presented by John Daniels, Author.

31 March 20:00, Bathford Parish Hall,  
(Coffee available from 19:30)

The NHS, with its many limitations, aims in theory to provide healthcare from cradle to grave and probably in Bathford with our local providers we do better than most. However, what happened before the NHS when Government was effectively absent from the scene? In this talk, John Daniels who has researched the topic, will tell us of the Bath Hospital Box scheme. This was a voluntary subscription scheme in which Bathford, one of over 80 local wards in Bath, West Wilts and North Somerset, set up a local committee to collect quarterly contributions from home collecting boxes. Initially established to rescue the Royal United Hospital from debt and closure (under the chairmanship of Frank Pine, the grandfather of John), the scheme expanded to cover a wide range of benefits including dentistry and spectacles.



## NEWS FROM SHOCKERWICK HOUSE

Feeling part of the Bathford community is incredibly important to our residents.

We love to welcome visitors and strengthen relationships with our neighbours and the wider community. With this in mind, we'd like to invite you to join us at one or more of the many events we hold at Shockerwick House.

Every month we have live entertainment, exercise classes, arts and crafts activities, animal visits, coffee mornings and more

– we'd love you to come along for a cuppa and a chat.

For details of upcoming events visit

[www.facebook.com/BupaCareHomeShockerwickHouse](http://www.facebook.com/BupaCareHomeShockerwickHouse)

We also love to work with community partners such as schools, nurseries, toddler groups, uniform groups, churches and social groups. Please do get in touch so we can connect with you by calling us on 01225 743636.

## THE BATHFORD SOCIETY

The Bathford Society is the repository of Bathford's history. Its well-stocked website is a gateway into the past. Six talks a year are organised on some aspect of local history. Meetings are held in the Parish Hall, on a Monday, usually from 20:00.

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



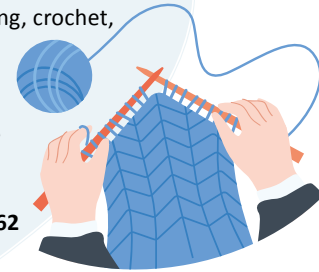
# THE HEARTBEAT CONTINUES...

Bathford wouldn't be so vibrant without the many activities and societies that are run by volunteers in our community; from crafts to local history, there's something for all to enjoy. For our fourth example of Bathford's Heartbeat, we focus on the community spirit evident in these activities. The short descriptions give a brief insight into their offerings.

More will follow next month.

## COOL TO KNIT

Cool to Knit craft group meets in the Village Shop Café every Monday from 14:00 for two hours. Members bring knitting, crochet, tapestry, patchwork and other craft projects. There is a core group, but anyone is welcome to drop in. Some tuition is available and of course, tea and cake! Contact Wendy **07814 016962**



## THE BATHFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Friendships and fun are what you can expect by being involved with the Twinning Association.

Officially twinned with Artannes-sur-Indre, a village in the Loire Valley in France, since 2005, the Association organises group visits to each other's country as well as youth exchanges (there is a bursary fund to support these). The ability to speak French is not necessary. Look out for social events in Bathford too. More details, email: [bathfordtwinningassociation@gmail.com](mailto:bathfordtwinningassociation@gmail.com)



## FRIENDS OF BATHFORD SCHOOL (FOBS)

Friends of Bathford School (FOBS) is for the parents, guardians and teachers of the children who attend the school. Its main aim is to raise funds to purchase items that would otherwise fall outside the school's budget such as the school playground or helping towards school trips. They do it through organising an annual programme of fundraising events and activities that are enjoyable for both children and adults. FOBS also provides an informal social network for parents.

Further information: [www.friendsofbathfordschool.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbathfordschool.org.uk)



## BATHFORD FRIDAY ART GROUP

Bathford Friday Art Group was established over 30 years ago.

It meets on Friday mornings in the Parish Hall. They work mainly in watercolour and follow a varied subject list chosen by group members. They are not tutored but support is offered, and opinions and guidance are shared. Their art exhibition is a regular event. Contact: Debbie Clist **07752 672507**



## THE BATHFORD FILM CLUB

Bathford Film Club is run by volunteers from St Swithun's and is held in the Church at 14:00 on the fourth Monday of each month. It shows a wide variety of films, both modern or classic, followed by tea and cake. A good afternoon activity for film and chat. Listings are in the Bathford Bulletin or the St Swithun's Bathford Facebook page.



## BATHEASTON GARDEN GROUP

Batheaston Garden Group meets at Bathford Parish Hall and runs a programme of events related to gardens and gardening. Events are held once a month throughout the year. During winter months they have talks, usually on Wednesday evenings. Non-members are most welcome to attend. In the summer they have a series of visits to local gardens and nurseries of interest and beauty.

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





## FROM ST. SWITHUN'S

Dear Friends,

**Easter is pretty late this year so Shrove Tuesday, pancake day (the day before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday) is unusually in March on the 4th.**

Will you mark this day with a special pancake tea? We won't be going into school with pancakes this year, but we will be enjoying pancakes at our young people's events in March:

**Sunday 2 March at 17:30,** Reconnect (for young people currently in year 8)

**Sunday 9 March at 16:00, Come & See** (for parents and primary age children). Please feel warmly invited to join in!

And if you're not that age bracket then I hope you will still find time for pancakes and space to mark the season of Lent – a brilliant chance to pause and reflect – to remind ourselves what matters most. We will be offering some space for reflection each **Wednesday in Lent** – alternating between St Swithun's and St John's, Batheaston – with a speaker to offer their thoughts.

With every blessing.  
*Lauretta*



## Together in Lent

Meetings begin at 12pm – please be prompt!

- 12 March, St Swithun's:** *Guided meditation* with Jacky Wise
- 19 March, St John's:** *Art meditation* with Gill Sakatini
- 26 March, St Swithun's:** *Reflection* with Bishop Chris Foster
- 2 April, St John's:** *Music reflection* with cellist
- 9 April, St Swithun's:** *Reflection* with Bishop Paul Bayes

**You are warmly invited to come and enjoy the space, the time and our guest speakers**

*Bring a picnic lunch and we'll provide teas & coffees!*

For info email: [administrator@stswithunsbathord.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stswithunsbathord.co.uk)

**Music**  
at St Swithun's  
Church Bathford  
**On a  
Sunday  
afternoon**

The next charity fund raising concert is at  
**15:00 on SUNDAY 16 March**

Featuring: Bathford Village Choir, Bathford Church School  
Choir, local musician Kate Robey  
and students from Downside School

Tea and homemade cakes served after the concert

No tickets, donations welcome in aid of Jamie's Farm



## EVERY PANCAKE TELLS A STORY!

**Who doesn't look forward to Shrove Tuesday to enjoy a pancake treat?**

Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, is an important part of the Christian calendar, but why do we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?

Christians believe that the **40 days before Easter** (called Lent) marks the time that Jesus spent fasting in the desert. Traditionally, this time was spent praying and fasting, which meant not eating rich foods including meat, eggs, fats and milk. Before Lent could begin, all of these foods needed to be removed from the house so that they would be out of temptation's way. One way to use up some of these was to make pancakes.

In France, **Shrove Tuesday** is known as **Mardi Gras – translated as Fat Tuesday**. Originally a catholic holiday, Mardi Gras marks the eve of Lent and like us, their custom was a period of **abstinence from indulgent food**. It still holds religious significance for many. Their tradition to use up the butter, milk and eggs is also to make pancakes - or as they call them, **Crêpes**.

Historically, people dressed up for Mardi Gras to join in the revelry and excitement of the day. Nowadays, children often dress up to go to school and show off their outfits and there are carnivals all over France.

We asked **Jean-Luc Morisset**, a keen baker from our **Twin Village, Artannes sur Indre**, for his recipe for making traditional crêpes. **Here it is:**

### SWEET CRÊPES RECIPE

Makes about 15 large crêpes

**250 g plain flour**    **5 g salt**

**3 large eggs**        **400 ml milk**

**30 g sugar**         **40 g melted butter**

1. Put dry ingredients into a large bowl and stir
2. Add the eggs and half the milk and whisk until combined
3. Add the rest of the milk and melted butter and stir. Leave to rest for at least 1 hour
4. Warm your frying pan on the hob for a couple of minutes then brush base and sides with melted butter
5. Remove pan from heat and add batter. For a 20cm pan you will need about 3 tbsp or 45 – 50 ml batter and a 23 cm pan, about 4 tbs or 60 ml. Swirl the pan as you add the batter, working quickly to spread it evenly all way to the edges. Place the pan back on the heat
6. Cook the each crêpe until the edges are starting to brown and look a little crispy. Gently lift each crêpe and flip it over to cook the other side until you see brown caramelised spots
7. Have a go at tossing – or tip out onto a plate and finish with your favourite topping.

If you don't fancy having a go yourself, The **Twinning Association** will be making crêpes with Jean-Luc's recipe and serving them in the **Village Shop Café** between **15:30 and 17:00 on Tuesday 4 March.**





The cast sang and danced their socks off!

## SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN (nine or ten!) DWARVES

a Review by Judy Marris

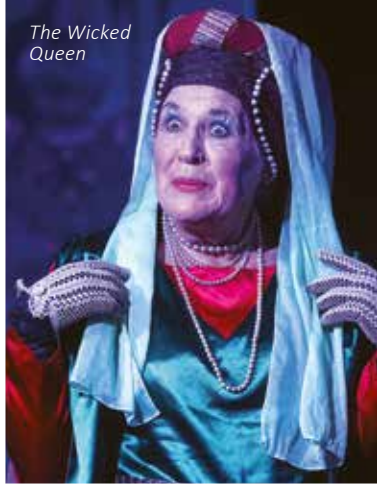
**Snow White** is one of those fairytales from the Brothers Grimm that really isn't suitable for children as its themes include **magic, murder and poisoning**. But in the hands of **Walt Disney** and now **Nigel Holmes**, who wrote the Bathford pantomime, it has taken on a charm that dispels the undercurrent of cruelty and danger.

**Emma and Anthony Sanchez** put together a delightful musical entertainment with great support from their team backstage and front-of-house. This allowed their cast, young and older, to show their many talents. I must start with the **Seven Dwarves – all nine (or ten) of them!** They made a splendid chorus line, dancing and singing their way through the evening. I wasn't expecting cartwheels and somersaults as well!

There were so many **outstanding performances** that I would have to list the whole cast to do them justice. However, I am going to give some honorable mentions. Of course, **Whoppi da Cookie** and her seduction of a somewhat startled audience member will live on in my memory (and probably his too!). I was charmed by **Late Laura** in her many roles all edged with a tinge of heavenly madness. **The Wicked Queen** and her deliciously camp mirror kept the story in line while **Muddles and Puddles** did their best to distract us. And those I haven't mentioned will also remain in my memory of this colourful and happy production.

While the cast sang and danced their socks off, I have to give a shout out to us, the Audience, who booed, shouted and joined in at every possible moment. **And I'm sure all of us will be there again next year.**

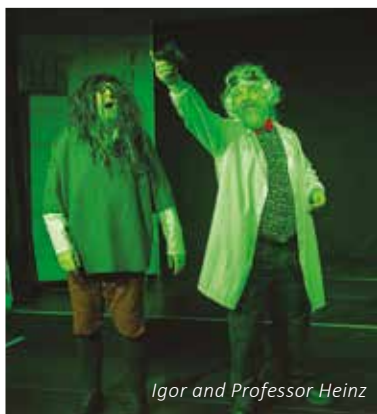
All photographs by Charlie Matters



The Wicked Queen



Muddles and Puddles



Igor and Professor Heinz



Snow White and Prince Esmond

## AROUND THE GARDEN

with Kevin Marris



I've bitten the bullet. I'm digging up all the plants in the front flower bed, potting them up and leaving the couch grass to grow – then, when it thinks it's winning, I'll zap it with weed killer.

It's no good thinking you can clear it just by digging, because the rhizomes (remember them?), can hide in nooks and crannies in walls and then come back to haunt you as soon as your back's turned. Unfortunately, it does mean that bit of garden will be bare for months and months. And I've been told that I must **rinse off the root ball** of the potted plants before putting them back in the garden. That's all quite a big job, but I didn't get interested in gardening because it's easy.

But at least the weather has been mild, and colour has been appearing for a few weeks now, starting

with **winter jasmine**, then **snowdrops** and **hellebores** (the Lenten Rose to you and me); and now the **irises** are pushing up in the borders, a rich purple that would do justice to any royal robes. There's

not enough in my garden to have an **Open Day**, but there are plenty of displays to be seen if you look them up on the Internet.

It may be too late now for snowdrops, but I'll give you earlier warning next year, I promise.



## BATHEASTON GARDEN GROUP

Events in March

**Wednesday 19 March at 19:30 Bathford Parish Hall.** Charlotte Popescu will give a talk '**In Praise of Apples**'. As well as growing apple trees and favourite apple varieties, Charlotte's talk will look at the origins of the cultivated apples grown today and explore some of the folklore and customs celebrating the apple. **All welcome, non-members £5.**

**Saturday 22 March 10:00 to 12:00** Spring Plant Sale outside Badgers Lodge, Church Street, Bathford BA1 7TU. Batheaston Garden Group will be selling a variety of plants grown by members. Cash only please.

Please see our website [www.batheastongardengroup.co.uk](http://www.batheastongardengroup.co.uk) for our 2025 programme and for information on becoming a member.



Catherine presenting a framed certificate to Evelyn



### Congratulations to our Superstar Young Writers!

Following the announcement of our winning and highly commended entries for January's **11s and Under Creative Writing Challenge**, we were delighted to present **Lucas Richardson** and **Evelyn Baker** with their awards at the Village Shop last month.

After a celebratory hot chocolate in the Café, the budding wordsmiths received their very own framed certificates, along with a book token for Lucas, who was considered Most Promising Writer.

**Both declared that receiving the awards felt 'amazing'!**

For Lucas, a love of Greek Mythology provided inspiration for his winning story 'Go Zeus' (published in last month's issue). Both children enjoy writing in their free time, and Highly Commended writer Evelyn told us that she is currently writing two books of her own!

**Congratulations again to both and we look forward to hearing about their future literary exploits!**

*Catherine Tait*



### BATH SAILING CLUB | Evening Talk

**Monday 10 March 19:30 at the Village Club**

**GUEST SPEAKER | Tony Conder, Historian and Guide. 'Gloucestershire and the Atlantic Slave Trade'**

A reminder not to miss this forthcoming talk. It will be an illustrated presentation exploring what the slave trade was, the income generated from it, and how it impacted on Gloucestershire. It will touch on some of the local characters involved such as **William Blathwayt** of **Dyrham House** and **MP for Bath**, who administered the early colonies in America and was **Secretary for Trade and Plantations**.

This topical presentation will leave the audience to make their own minds up about the subject of slavery in the World's colonies, and Great Britain's part in it.

The Bath Sailing Club evening talks are open to the general public. A **£4 donation** on the night is welcomed to cover the costs of the **Village Club** and towards the speaker's nominated charity.

Also – a final reminder for those wanting to join the visit to **Portsmouth Harbour** on **Monday 15 April** to visit 'HMS Warrior' and other attractions. Email: [davidlelohe@live.com](mailto:davidlelohe@live.com) for further details.

More information: [www.bathsailingclub.org.uk](http://www.bathsailingclub.org.uk)



Bluebird Care Bath, Bristol and North East Somerset is a leading home care provider with an expert care team delivering high quality care. We enable people to live a fulfilled and meaningful life in their own homes and local community.

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# UNFUN RUN RETURNS

We are delighted to announce that the Bathford Unfun Run will be happening again in 2025.

A tough one-mile off-road hill run from the **Crown to the Folly**, the event is open to adults and children to walk or run.

The route is a **180m ascent** through village, fields and woods, with a testing finish up the steps to the Folly.

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY 10 MAY 2025 at 14:00**

Race the clock, challenge your mates, try not to stop, wear fancy dress or just walk...the choice is yours.

All proceeds from the event go to the **Friends of Bathford School** charity. To sign up, find out more, volunteer, or support, scan the QR code right.

“Absolutely cracking event – brought everyone together and raised a load of £££”

“Fantastic afternoon...top time”

“Longest 10 mins of my life!”

“Awesome event - (not) looking forward to next year!”

*Kev, Marc, Martin and Tom – Unfun Run organisers*



2024 Unfun Run winners



# BATHFORD CHURCH SCHOOL

powered by the sun!

Children at **Bathford Church School** have helped support the school's theme of **Sustainable Development** following the installation of **new solar panels** on the school's roof during the October half-term of 2024. The children have learnt about the impact of people's actions on the environment and wanted to take some positive, practical action as caring, responsible global citizens.

We are pleased to say that this was at no direct cost to the school, courtesy of an initiative from **Bath & West Community Energy (BWCE)\*** and part-funded by a **£500,000 grant** through the **South-West Local Solar Scheme**. The school will benefit from lower-cost clean electricity generated by the sun for the next 25 years, which will reduce carbon emissions and make substantial savings to electricity bills, so more of the budget can be diverted to teaching and learning resources for children.

\*You can find out more about BWCE's ambitious projects at [www.bwce.coop](http://www.bwce.coop)

*Charlotte Hart*



“We are excited to be making our school eco-friendlier.”

“Making greater use of renewable energy is one way we can try to protect our planet.”

*Bathford Year 6 pupils*

# THE REPAIR CAFE BATHFORD

## BATHFORD REPAIR CAFÉ

Where do you take that flickering table lamp to get fixed or a new zip put in your favourite onesie? Your local Repair Café!

We now have the opportunity to launch our very own Repair Café in Bathford and we're going to hold a meeting on **5 April** to get things started – venue, and time in the next issue. You'll hear about **Repair Cafés** and the **Library of Lending Things**, how to get involved and the range of things we can fix.

**The success of a Repair Café depends on two things:**

- A group of volunteers (organisers, repairers) who are willing to help out for a few hours on the same Saturday morning each month
- A steady stream of users with items that need fixing

The meeting is your opportunity to join that group of volunteers and/or let us know that you have things that need fixing – we can't do this without either of these so please come along and get involved.

For more information or to offer your support contact [bathfordrepaircafe@btinternet.com](mailto:bathfordrepaircafe@btinternet.com)

**Don't bin it, fix it!**



## BATHFORD EVENTS PRESENT...

Take your partners... It's time for another Ceilidh in Bathford.

After the great success of last year's 'hoedown' you're invited once again to get your dancing shoes on and get down to Bathford School Hall for what is a great evening of fun (and exercise!). Jiggidy, the band, are making a welcome return visit with their caller who will help you through all the moves. Enjoyment is guaranteed for old and young alike. The kids loved the last one we held and it's great to see the whole community having fun! A refreshment bar is available.

Organised by Bathford Events Team, all money raised from the events goes back into providing activities for the **Bathford parish community** throughout the year. If you would like to volunteer to be part of the team or to help at events, contact [events@bathford.net](mailto:events@bathford.net)

# SAT 22ND MAR

Bathford Events present... **7 PM**

## CEILIDH DANCE

BATHFORD CHURCH SCHOOL

Live band, Jiggidy, and caller telling you the moves, so all you need to do is turn up and have fun.

All ages welcome, bar and soft drinks available

**£12  
£8 conc  
£5 kids**

Tickets from

Bathford Village Shop or [bathfordevents.sumupstore.com](http://bathfordevents.sumupstore.com)



# BATHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## JOHN LLOYD

It is with such sadness that we notify you of the passing of John Lloyd, our longest-serving councillor of over 30 years' service.

John grew up in Bathford from the age of two and had Bathford running through his veins. He was, in effect, an 'Unsung Hero' of Bathford. A man of wisdom, benevolence and industry in keeping the wheels of the parish turning - helping out with repairs, installing utilities in the allotments, a knowledge of legal aspects... his gift was endless. And he was a man of humility and kindness; nothing was too much of a bother for him to help with. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude and he will be sorely missed by fellow councillors and those that knew him. We hope to share more memories of John with you in a future edition.

Our sincere condolences go to his mother Peggy, sister Frances, friends and all his work colleagues.

## COMMUNITY VISION SURVEY

The Community Survey is a vital piece of research looking at the future desires for the Bathford parish and its residents. Everyone is encouraged to submit their thoughts. Forms to complete by hand were provided in February's edition of the Bulletin. If you have mislaid yours, please **contact the clerk below to request another form**. Alternatively, complete the survey online at <https://forms.gle/sLQpffc66j4Ff3976> But be quick, analysis of the survey results will start this month.

## FIRST AID COURSE

Wednesday March 19, Bathford School Hall at 19:30. Open to all residents. Instruction is by the Wiltshire & Bath Air Ambulance team. Knowing how to respond at an emergency can be vital in helping someone's recovery and aid survival.

## PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

There are currently two posts available for councillors to join the Parish Council.

Bathford is a thriving and vibrant community; serving on the council gives you the opportunity to help administer parish matters and to enhance the services and quality of life for the community's residents both now and for the future. It's a rewarding position with the chance to serve on committees specific to Amenities, Communications, Finance, Highways or Planning. To find out more and talk to other fellow councillors about the posts, please contact the clerk.

### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 17 March 19:00  
Bathford School Hall

Residents are welcome to raise issues with the Council in the first ten minutes.

Contact: [clerk@bathford.net](mailto:clerk@bathford.net)  
Tel. 01225 858220



WILTSHIRE + BATH AIR AMBULANCE  
FR REGULATOR  
County Number 38007

### Free first aid awareness session

Covering key lifesaving skills so you can learn a new skill or refresh an old one.

**Date:** Wednesday 19 March  
**Time:** 7:30pm to 9pm  
**Location:** Bathford Primary School

Sign up here → or turn up on the night



## WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

- Live Music: Sharon Stanton  
Sat 1 Mar | 20:30  
Village Club
- Service of Holy Communion  
Sun 2 Mar | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Re:Connect for Children in year 8  
Sun 2 Mar | 17:30  
St Swithun's Church
- Twinning Association: Crêpe-making, Shrove Tuesday  
Tues 4 Mar | 15:30 to 17:00  
Bathford Village Shop Café
- Mobile Library  
Wed 5 Mar | 11:20 to 12:05  
Dovers Park by School
- Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion with Ashing  
Wed 5 Mar | 19:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bathford Village Choir practice (every Thu in Mar)  
Thu 6 Mar | 19:45  
Bathford Parish Hall
- BEFA Quiz night  
Fri 7 Mar | 19:00 to 22:00  
Bathford Parish Hall
- Contemporary Service  
Sun 9 Mar | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Come & See for children aged 4-11 and their families  
Sun 9 Mar | 16:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bath Sailing Club: Tony Conder – Gloucestershire and the Atlantic Slave Trade  
Mon 10 Mar | 19:30 for 20:00  
Village Club
- Together in Lent – Guided meditation with Jacky Wise  
Wed 12 Mar | 12:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bingo  
Fri 14 Mar | 19:30  
Village Club
- Live Music: Play It Again Steve  
Sat 15 Mar | 20:30  
Village Club
- Service of Holy Communion with a contemporary feel  
Sun 16 Mar | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Music on a Sunday Afternoon  
Sun 16 Mar | 15:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bathford Parish Council Meeting  
Mon 17 Mar | 19:00  
Bathford School
- Mobile Library  
Wed 19 Mar | 11:20 to 12:05  
Dovers Park by School
- Together in Lent – Art meditation with Gill Sakatini  
Wed 19 Mar | 12:00  
St John's Church
- Batheaston Garden Club: Talk 'In Praise of Apples'  
Wed 19 Mar | 19:30 to 21:00  
Dovers Park by School
- First aid awareness  
Wed 19 Mar | 19:30  
Bathford School
- Batheaston Garden Club: Spring plant sale  
Sat 22 Mar | 10:00 to 12:00  
Outside Badgers Lodge, Church Street, Bathford BA1 7TU
- Ceilidh  
Sat 22 Mar | 19:00  
Bathford School
- Welcome Church, all ages welcome  
Sun 23 Mar | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Evening Prayer (refreshments from 16:00)  
Sun 23 Mar | 16:30  
St Swithun's Church
- Film Club: Finding Your Feet  
Mon 24 Mar | 14:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Together in Lent – Reflection with Bishop Chris Foster  
Wed 26 Mar | 12:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Jazz Night  
Fri 28 Mar | 20:00  
Village Club
- Live Music: Andrea  
Sat 29 Mar | 20:30  
Village Club
- Family Service on Mother's Day  
Sun 30 Mar | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bathford Society Talk – Bathford before the NHS, presented by John Daniels  
Mon 31 Mar | 20:00  
Bathford Parish Hall

## FOR YOUR DIARY

- Together in Lent – Music reflection with cellist  
Wed 2 Apr | 12:00  
St John's Church
- Spring Celebration Supper  
Friday 4 Apr | 18:30- 21:30  
Bathford Village Shop Café
- Repair Shop Cafe  
Sat 5 Apr  
Venue, time TBA
- Together in Lent – Reflection with Bishop Paul Bayes  
Wed 9 Apr | 12:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Twinning Association Twentieth Anniversary  
Thu 10 to Mon 14 Apr
- Bath Sailing Club Awayday – Portsmouth by train to visit 'HMS Warrior'  
Mon 15 Apr
- Bathford Unfun Run  
Sat 10 May | 14:00

You can now publish your event on the Parish Council website calendar.

Email [clerk@bathford.net](mailto:clerk@bathford.net) with the following information:

Event name/date/start time/finish time/venue

To see the calendar visit: [www.bathford.net/local-information/events](http://www.bathford.net/local-information/events)

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