

THE BIG Paper

PROJECT REJUVENATE BIDFORD YOUTH CLUB

Well, what can we say? The response we had to the request for help with rejuvenating our tired youth club has been phenomenal! So many kind donations and help of all kinds through the summer and ongoing really has brought a lump to the throats of the youth leaders, committee and others who have been co-ordinating the efforts.

From people coming along to spend a few hours (and for some a lot of hours) using their DIY skills, baking a cake and bringing juice down to keep the workers nourished, through those coming along to clean and titivate in the last few days, we have been astounded by how generous people have been with their time. As for the materials, we have been given, kitchen units, beanbags, paints, cakes (say it again because we like cakes), even a boat with the full works, all manner of things. We are truly grateful to everyone for your kind support. So, now we've painted, cleaned, hammered and banged (not necessarily in

Come along to our...
OPEN DAY
Saturday 29th
September
ALL WELCOME!

that order) we are really excited to show off the results. **An Open Day is being planned for Saturday 29th September** and everyone is invited to come along and take a look, have a go at the activities the club has on offer and share some light refreshments with us. So if you've helped with the project, would like to join the club or offer some time as a volunteer or just want to come along and see the results of all generations of Bidford working together please come and join us.

You can join our Facebook Group at Project Rejuvenate Bidford Youth Club and click 'join', email bidfordyc@hotmail.co.uk or ring 01789 778226. We look forward to hearing from you soon.



CALLING ALL YOUTH

**Are you aged 13-19?
Do you live in the Bidford-on-Avon area?**

Want to find out about what Bidford Youth Club has to offer you? Would you like to tell us your ideas and what you would like to do?

**Monday 15th October 2012
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

FREE SESSION
with free bacon butty and hot chocolate
**Salford Road, Bidford-on-Avon
07721559387 for more info**

BUY IN BIDFORD CHRISTMAS MARKET 2012

LIVE LOCAL? ENJOY LOCAL? SHOP LOCAL? SPEND LOCAL? START THE TREND!
Support the local businesses that support the area where you live, work and play.

The great news is that you can do all of the above, and avoid the swarms of Christmas Shoppers at the big shopping centres in the lead up to the frenetic yet wonderful Christmas period. No exorbitant car parking fees, as it's FREE to park in Bidford-on-Avon, you use less petrol and you can buy wonderful gifts, presents, products and services in your Local community. Following on from our highly successful 'Buy In Bidford' Summer Fayre in July, we are holding, for the second year, our own version of a Christmas Market, right here in Bidford-on-Avon.

When & Where: Saturday, 24th

November 2012 (from 10am until 3pm) at the Crawford Memorial Hall.

There will be plenty for you to see, do, taste, touch and smell and yet again we have managed to get an early visit from Santa Claus, just for the children, with his very own "Magic Castle". You will be able to enjoy a tea or coffee as you browse through the range of wares that our very own Local businesses here in Bidford-on-Avon make, create, supply and sell. The Buy In Bidford team would also love to hear your views on what you would like to see in the village. What could we do to make the village more

convenient, more up-to-date, and more enticing for you and your family? We look forward to welcoming you all.
Why Not Buy In Bidford this Christmas?

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE CREDIT UNION

Your Local Alternative to Banks and Pay Day Lenders

South Warwickshire
Credit Union is a
non profit making
organisation run
mainly by volunteers.



It has no shareholders and is run
for the benefit of its members.

We offer our members easy ways to save
and you can save whatever amount suits
you. Members can save on a weekly or
monthly basis by a standing order or by
paying in cash at one of the Collection
points our volunteers operate across the
area.

After being a member for a short while
you will become eligible to apply for
our loans which are very competitively
priced at rates from 12.7% APR which
are a fraction of the amounts the pay day/
doorstep lenders are currently charging.
Our loans also have absolutely no hidden
charges and can be repaid without any
penalty at any time.

Our head office is in Stratford-upon-Avon
but from early October we will be offering
a weekly Collection point and information
about our services from Bidford
Community Library.

**To find out more about us
you can visit our website at**

southwarwickshirecreditunion.co.uk

You can also contact us at

**[southwarwickshirecreditunion@
rocketmail.com](mailto:southwarwickshirecreditunion@rocketmail.com) or by telephone on
01789 261505.**

MESSAGE FROM OUR PCSO

The summer months seem to have been and gone far to quickly for my liking, even though the weather wasn't particularly brilliant in parts! Saying that I hope you've had a good time watching the Olympics and had the opportunity for a BBQ or two! Now we are coming to the winter months and nights are drawing in, a number of different policing issues can present themselves however its best I first give you an update on the issues since my last report.

In terms of crime reported since June when I last wrote, we have had five burglaries of residential properties, four burglaries of out buildings and commercial premises, eleven thefts from vehicle and three thefts of vehicle. For anti social/rowdy behaviour we have had 25 calls reported which is down on figures on previous years. A number of our anti social related calls have been to the old Hill View Farm, Lambourne Close where youths have been gaining access to the site and setting fires etc. The owner of the site Taylor Wimpey has now fenced off the grounds which has helped to provide a deterrent to youths attempting to gain access. In terms of ASB at the Big Meadow, again call numbers seemed to have dropped which is partly thanks to the continued policing operation between Warwickshire and West Mercia police to conduct regular checks on the site.

As many of you are aware, during the beginning of August there was an increase in vehicle crime particularly thefts from vehicles and thefts of vehicles from around the village. It was believed that from the description given of the offender that this was the work of one particular individual, who was already wanted by Police. Thankfully after a joint operation with our neighbouring forces in disseminating intelligence this male was located and arrested by Gloucestershire Police within Cheltenham.

On a more positive note a Community Speed Watch course for residents from Bidford and Welford has recently been run, with hope that the volunteers will be out conducting speed checks within the community fairly soon. If anyone is interested in joining the speed watch scheme then please feel free to contact me on the below details.

A little bit of crime prevention for you all

out there! There has been increasing report recently, of thefts of catalytic convertors from vehicles, in particular from 4x4's. This is due to the ease of going under the vehicle to unbolt the cat-convertor thanks to the vehicles higher ground clearance. Therefore I would advise you if possible to store your vehicle securely within a garage and should this not be possible to park your vehicle on a driveway with the rear of your vehicle difficult to access, failing that making sure it is parked in a well lit area. Should you see anyone acting suspiciously round vehicles then please phone the police straight away.

At the time of writing this I'd like to point out that the Alcester South community forum is due on 11th September at St. Benedicts School, Kinwarton Road, Alcester from 6.30pm onwards where you are able to attend and voice your concerns about your community and where our three policing priorities are set for the next three months. I've also started to conduct police surgeries in our mobile police station van in Bidford, Welford and Salford Priors with the next one being 19th September from 9.30-10.00am on Bidford High Street this again on 29th September at 15.30-16.00 on the High Street, coincidentally the same date of the open afternoon of Bidford Youth Club (12-5pm at Salford Road Bidford) Please feel free to pop along and say hello.

Finally I'd like to wish all younger residents best wishes whether you're starting or returning to school! Hopefully the next few months will be both quiet and interesting ones around the village.

PCSO 6093 Becky Morris
rebecca.morris@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

WARWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY OIL SYNDICATE

Warwickshire Rural Community Council (WRCC) is delighted to announce the launch of Warwickshire Community Oil Syndicate, a new venture that will be good for individuals, rural communities and the environment. The Warwickshire Community Oil Syndicate will use the model of a local buying syndicate for domestic heating oil but will roll it out across the whole county.

There is great strength in harnessing the purchasing power of the many rural communities who are without mains gas and oil-buyers will be able to make significant savings. The oil syndicate brings together orders from householders, community organisations and businesses across the county which are then added to other counties who operate similar buying groups to get the very best price, with an average saving per

order of more than £350. Chief Executive, Kim Slater, says "The key to making this work will be having local people who will collate the local oil orders once a month and pass the information to us; and who will then let the local members know the cost per litre and the delivery date. That's pretty much it. For undertaking this voluntary role they will get free membership of the oil syndicate an annual saving of £320. Members of the

Warwickshire Community Oil Syndicate will be able to order as many times as they like during the year and the price will be negotiated centrally." To find out more about becoming a Local Co-ordinator for your community or joining the oil syndicate visit **www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk** or get in touch with WRCC on **01789 472611** or email **oil@wrccrural.org.uk**

A NEW FACE FOR BIDFORD SCAN

As from this month, SCAN is changing its working structure, taking it out of the VASA and local authority framework, and planting its roots firmly in Bidford. In common with the other Older Peoples' Action Groups in Stratford district, SCAN in Bidford is to be run and managed in its own village, with greater freedom to raise and manage its money and activities through a newly-formed management committee, and a separate bank account held and controlled by SCAN members.

Ever since the Older People's Groups were set up in this district some ten years ago, they have been funded and co-ordinated by Stratford District and Warwickshire County Councils. Created through the Government's "Better Services for Older People" initiative, they were made a responsibility of the County, with management support provided at the local level initially by Chris Mitchell and latterly by Jan Roberts of Stratford District Council. Finance was provided by the County itself.

2010 saw major changes taking place. The annual funding of £1500 per year was cut to £750, and this year (April 2012 – March 2013) it has been withdrawn altogether. Fortunately, Stratford District stepped in, and agreed to a grant to cover the immediate shortfall, but only for one year. SCAN has now been running for three years on a reduced budget of £750, and faces a future using its own funds.

Members in Bidford, and in the neighbouring areas of Alcester, Stratford, Henley in

Arden, Shipston and Southam are picking up the challenge. Bidford has been shrewdly managed, and has some reserves, which are to be transferred this month to a new bank account in the village. A Management Team will be set up to handle the bank account and activities annually. Stratford District Council will continue to provide operational support through Jan Roberts and her team, who will retain their links with all six SCAN groups. All being well, Bidford SCAN as a voluntary organisation will affiliate to VASA, and will play its part in voluntary activity in the district.

The future is a challenge, and Bidford SCAN is taking steps to meet it. The members have agreed to affiliate to Age UK, providing an information and network facility, not to mention a £250 start-up grant, which will be very useful in the short term. Total resources, including potential income, are adequate to keep the Group going for the next three years, and the rest is up to us!

RHYME TIME

Bidford Community Library would love you to come along to a new exciting venture. We are offering a sing along session for children up to age 3 and their carers on the second Friday of each month from October 12th. The session will start at 1.30 and lasts an hour.

There will be singing, story reading and a variety of musical instruments for everyone to try out.

You and your children will benefit from some fun time and the benefit of hearing and playing music together; enjoying stories and words and developing interpersonal and listening skills from sharing the experience with other children.

It has been shown that singing and talking with children in their early years will improve their ability to progress at school and that singing really helps to develop speech and language skills. Linking songs and words will encourage their love of stories and music which will lead them to use these skills in later years.

If you would like to know more, come along on **October 12th at 1.30** but put the dates for the remainder of the year in your diary now:- **November 9th, December 14th and for 2013 January 11th.**

Future dates to be confirmed in the New Year.

CUSTOMER ACCESS TERMINALS

80% of residents in the District live outside the town of Stratford-upon-Avon. Therefore 5 customer access terminals are located in Alcester, Southam, Bidford, Studley and Henley. Our terminals allow customers to talk one to one with a customer service advisor at our headquarters in Stratford-upon-Avon. Each terminal is equipped with scanners and webcams. The scanner allows you to easily show documents to our advisors and the webcams allow you to interact face to face for a more personal service. **Bidford's access point is based at Bidford Library, Bramley Way and it's opening hours are Monday 10:00 - 16:00; Tuesday 10:00 - 16:00; Wednesday and Thursday Closed; Friday 10:00 - 18:00; Saturday and Sunday Closed.**

COMING SOON TO BIDFORD RURAL CINEMA...

A partnership between Bidford on Avon Parish Council and the Crawford Memorial Hall Management Committee

THE CRAWFORD MEMORIAL HALL, SALFORD ROAD, BIDFORD-ON-AVON B50 4EZ

TICKET OFFICE OPENS 6.30pm • FILMS START AT 7.00pm

Refreshments available sponsored by your local



Friday 5th October
• 94 minutes plus interval



Friday 26th October
• 110 minutes plus interval



Friday 2nd Nov.
• 100 minutes plus interval



Friday 30th Nov.
• 136 minutes plus interval



Sunday 2nd Dec.
• 97 minutes plus interval

Tickets: Still only £2.50! For further information telephone **01789 778653** or **07718 628925** or see **www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk**

BRAVE THE WEATHER TO SAVE A LIFE THIS AUTUMN

With the weather getting colder and the days getting shorter, many people will be spending more time at home this season following a summer of sport and Jubilee celebrations.

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is urging people to brave the cold and the dark to give blood this month. With an ever constant demand for blood stocks, donors in the Bidford-on-Avon area are being reminded that it only takes an hour to save a life and new donors are being urged to come along too. There are many ways that donated blood can save the lives of the sick and injured. Donated blood is used not only in accident and emergency situations but also for patients undergoing surgery and receiving treatment for cancer and blood diseases, such as leukaemia. NHSBT is continuing to supply hospitals with all the blood that they need. However, both red cells and platelets have a limited shelf-life (35 days for red cells and seven days for platelets) and stocks are usually turned over within a few days. It's vital they are replenished, to replace the blood being sent to hospitals on a



daily basis. Shailesh Mistry, Lead Donor Relations Manager for NHSBT, said: "We know that the drop in temperature, the end of summer and the beginning of a new school term has meant that many of our donors have had to change their routines. "Now that people are back to their normal schedules, we would like to remind donors and those that are thinking of donating for the first time, about the constant demand for blood and inform them that now is a great time to prepare for the upcoming winter months." Anyone aged between 17 - 65, weighing more than 50 kg (7 stone 12lbs) and in general good health could potentially start saving lives by becoming a blood donor. There is no upper age limit for donors who have donated in the last two years. **To book an appointment call the Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23 or visit www.blood.co.uk**

DID YOU KNOW...

- NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is a joint England and Wales Special Health Authority. Its remit includes the provision of a reliable, efficient supply of blood and associated services to the NHS in England and North Wales. It is also the organ donor organisation for the UK and is responsible for matching and allocating donated organs
- The NHS needs 7,000 voluntary donations of blood daily
- NHSBT collects approximately two million units of blood each year from 1.4 million blood donors
- Around 4% of the eligible population are active blood donors
- A unit of blood is measured as 470mls (or just under a pint)
- There are four main blood groups – O, A, B and AB. Group O is the most common and therefore the most in demand. Over 95% of the blood collected is processed into its main components – red cells, platelets and plasma. A regular supply of blood is vital – red cells last only 35 days and platelets only seven days
- Female whole blood donors can give blood every 16 weeks, while male blood donors must wait 12 weeks between donations.

BIDFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

The Bidford Community Group and the Jolly Teapot continue to thrive. All are welcome but we desperately need some slightly younger folk to help serve teas and coffees on Thursday mornings. If you could spare 2 to 3 hours once a month in a very friendly environment you will be greeted with one arms! Our pantomime visit is now fully booked but we have other outings in the offing. **If you can volunteer or would like any more information please ring Cheryl on 01789 778015.**



...working to include all ages and walks of life in our Community

C/O Parish Office
Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon.
Tel: 01789 778226 Fax: 0845 230 6511
Email: bidford.papar@hotmail.co.uk

EVENTS & MEETINGS

OCTOBER

- Friday 5th at 7.00 pm Bidford Rural Cinema, Crawford Memorial Hall: **MOONRISE KINGDON** (Cert 12a)
- Monday 8th at 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Friday 19th at 7.30 pm Bidford & District History Society meeting, St. Laurence Church
- Friday 26th at 7.00 pm Bidford Rural Cinema, Crawford Memorial Hall: **WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARE EXPECTING** (Cert 12a)
- Monday 29th at 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting

NOVEMBER

- Monday 2nd at 7.30 pm Bidford Rural Cinema, Crawford Memorial Hall: **BRAVE** (Cert PG)
- Monday 5th at 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Friday 16th at 7.30 pm Bidford & District History Society meeting St. Laurence Church
- Monday 26th at 7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting
- Friday 30th at 7.00 pm Bidford Rural Cinema: Crawford Memorial Hall : **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** (Cert. 12a)

DECEMBER

- Sunday 2nd at 2.00 pm Bidford Rural Cinema, Crawford Memorial Hall: **ARTHUR CHRISTMAS** (Cert U)
- Wednesday 5th at 7.00 pm Alcester/Bidford Community Forum, Salford Priors
- Monday 10th at 7.30 pm Planning Committee Meeting
- Monday 17th at .30 pm Parish Council Meeting
- Friday 20th at 7.30 pm Bidford & District History Society meeting St. Laurence Church

All meetings are held at the Parish Council Meeting Room, unless otherwise specified. Please note films are subject to change – please check the website to see if there have been any changes.

