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BUCKNELL NEWSLETTER ~Autumn 2024

From the Editor

Well, at least July and August this year have been better than the July and August of 2023. There have been, and will continue over the next few months, to be some changes in the village. Planning permission has gone in for the new Village Hall (see page 22), we have a new landlord team of Rob and Kerry coming to the Sitwell (see page 5). We will be losing our Priest in Charge, Dr Martin Quayle from September. I must thank Martin for his regular contributions to this newsletter and wish him and his family well as they move on.



The Pop-In Cafe continues to be popular and Mel and I were part of the team which catered for over 70 people (a record I believe) at the end of July. For more cafe news, see page 7.

I am also grateful to Brian Whittall for contacting me about the loss of the village horse chestnut tree. I felt a particular sadness about the loss of that tree. For me trees, with their (hopefully) long lives symbolise something that extends beyond most human lifetimes. I also observed branches being lost from some local oak trees in the woods at the top of Bridgend Lane, but thankfully they all have survived. More about the conker tree and the Bee Tree on page 5.

I have enjoyed talking to Brian about this tree and some of his older memories of Bucknell village life. If anyone has a story they would like to share, then please get in touch. You would not need to write anything down, I can do that and shape it into an article. As Brian said to me, these stories get lost over time so the ability to keep some kind of social history becomes all the more important.

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Front cover photo: Teme valley Tractor Run, courtesy of David Webb

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Flood Group - Update

There has been very little activity since my last update and thankfully the rainfall has been spread out sufficiently, so as not to cause any issues for the village. We continue to liaise with the Shropshire Wildlife Trust to determine ways in which the pilot project of leaky dams may be expanded. The local members meet at the Sitwell on an ad hoc basis to keep up to date with any developments.

If anyone is interested in joining the group please contact me in the first instance.

David Webb, August 2024

Bucknell's Trees

Following the loss of Bucknell's conker tree in July, I was contacted by Brian Whittall, with some background to the origins of this tree. Between the wars, Brian's uncle, Les Whittall was gardener to Captain and Mrs Eccles from Weir House and lived in Dog Kennel Lane. He was asked to plant



the tree to improve the view from Weir Cottage. Brian thinks this was probably in the early 1930s. Apparently, old farm equipment used to be left which ruined their view. When I researched Captain Eccles, the Parish Council website notes that St Mary's Church Aumbry and light (above the Easter Sepulchre) was erected in 1980 in his memory. Brian recalls that originally there was a sunken area around the tree with a low stone wall which they used to sit on. Overtime the wall has disappeared as the tree base grew. Brian cannot remember a time when there wasn't an established tree there. He also recalled a time when the tree was hit with a glancing blow from a car accident but on that occasion, the tree was safe. Brian

also recalled the "Bee Tree" at the top of Daffodil Lane, but more of that in future edition.

Editor.

All Change at the Sitwell



So it's farewell to Ross and Helen and hello to Rob and Kerry. Following a short closure, the Sitwell will reopen on the 4th September. Rob (James) and Kerry (Betambeau) will take up residence with their three children (Oliver, Jessica and Delilah) plus their three spaniels.

Initially the opening hours will stay the same, but food will be available on Wednesdays as well as Thursday to Sunday. Rob has a farming background but discovered a passion for cooking, which he has undertaken at several local food venues. He intends to source local produce and also hopes to add a local guest ale to the menu. He also hopes to spread the menu between traditional pub food and some more gastro options, with some theme food nights thrown in.

On opening night (4th September) there will be a 20% discount off all food and on the 5th a 10% food discount. On

the 7th there will be pizza plus live music. As Rob said, his focus is to "Bring the community in".

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News from the Pop in Cafe

Opening hours - Every Wednesday 10.30a.m - noon.

Packed Out Pop in Cafe

The Olympic pundits called the 31st July "Wonderful Wednesday" and the team on duty in St Mary's certainly agreed with that sentiment. The sun was hot and shining and well before the opening time of 10.30am our lovely customers came flocking in.

For the first time since opening over 9 years ago we ran out of everything and apologies to those who were gently 'badgered' for their cups, teapots and cafetieres as the queue couldn't be served until these had been washed and put back into use. Three times we had a queue back to the door and it was fabulous to see new faces and especially good to see young faces. During the morning we served over 70 customers and Dave, on washing up duty, remarked we had an age span of

nought to ninety.

There were no crumbs left for the team but we did enjoy a quick coffee near the end. Big thanks to Dave, Mel, Debbie and David for their great efforts. We would love to welcome anyone who can join our teams as we do need extra help in order to keep our little cafe going. Please contact me on 530105 if you think you could help.

Sue Fenlon







Shaun Dutton - Electrician

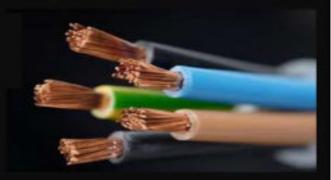
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The Grumpies

Now some might say that a picture paints a thousand words, and perhaps this one does. Or perhaps this group of grumpies will be challenged under the Trade Descriptions Act. After all, we don't exactly look grumpy!

The Grumpies group goes back many years and started at the Baron before moving to the Sitwell in 2023. Faces have come and gone but the spirit of the group remains intact. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 8pm for an evenings beer and banter. It's amazing what you get to hear about and is a wonderful source of old local history as well as a place just to have a grumble - or a giggle. We are all experts, especially when we've got a drink inside.

With thanks to the missing grumpy, Bob Hulstrom, for the picture. So Gents, if you fancy a couple of hours banter, why not come and join us. David Webb, Editor.





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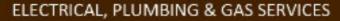
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REGULAR DATES

	Days	Event	Venue & Time	Contact		
	•					
WEEKLY	Monday	Bedstone Art Group	Bedstone Village Hall 10:30 - 13:00	Anne Holding		
	Tuesday	PiYo Club	St. Mary's School Hall	01584 874857 Helen Bithell		
	rucsuay	1110 club	19:30 - 20:10	07775 520968		
	Wednesday Grump	Grumpy Old Men's	The Sitwell	Just turn up for a		
		Club	20:00 - 22:00	chat about anything		
	Wednesday	Pop In Café	St. Mary's Church	Sue Fenion		
		Bucknell	10:30 - 12:00	01547 530105		
	Thursday	Tots and Tinies Bucknell	Bucknell Memorial Hall 10:00 - 12:00	Kelsey Winter 07975546763		
	Friday	Bingo	Bucknell Memorial Hall 19:45	Dorothy Edwards 01547 530252		
	Saturday	Indoor Circuit	Bucknell Memorial Hall	Helen Bithell		
		Training	08:30	07775 520968		
	Monday	Bucknell Walkers	Lych Gate	Mike Starr		
			St. Mary's Church	01547 530179		
Ę	Moderadou	Mahila Lihuam.	09:00 - sharp!	Chuanahina Libuama		
힐	Wednesday Mobile Library Service		Belmont Garage end of the Causeway	Shropshire Library Service		
FORTNIGHTLY		33.1.33	14:05 - 14:25	01743 255024		
요	Thursday Skittles		Sylvia & Derek			
		Skittles	Memorial Hall 19:30	Meredith		
				01547 530422		
	First Monday	Bucknell Book	Variable venues	Doug White		
	First	Group Bedstone and	Variable venues - see	07734 166634		
된	Wednesday	Beastone and Bucknell Parish	parish notice boards	Carol Davies Chairman		
MONTHLY		Council	19:30	0774 428 373		
MC	Third	Women's Institute	Bucknell Memorial Hall	Marion Cox		
	Wednesday		7:15pm	07964 710983		
YEAR	Bucknell Show					



Bucknell Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Contact me, the scheme coordinator, if you would like to join the scheme by telephoning me or sending me an email.

Telephone: Jim Hughes on 01547 530 077 or 07980 883 785 or Email: hughes_jim@msn.com

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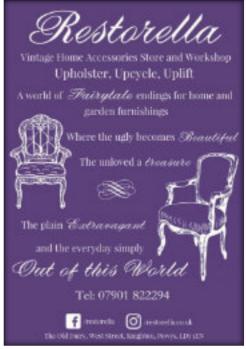
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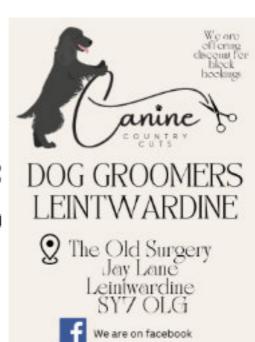




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Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant: Sgt 0640 Jenni Price

Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable: PC 3331 Stuart Coote

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss, PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown

Team Email: <u>bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk</u>

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Website: www.westmercia.police.uk
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Pam's Plants - PLANT SALE

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Teme Valley Tractor Rally held in Bucknell

On a beautiful sunny Sunday at the beginning of June many Bucknell residents and visitors enjoyed the sights and sounds of the tractor rally held for the first time at our playing fields.

Vintage cars, engines, tractors and vans were on display and music was provided by two old fairground organs. There were stalls selling refreshments and handmade products and a bar on hand to keep the crowds hydrated!

This was a lovely event making use of our facilities and of course the stunning surrounding scenery made it even more enjoyable.

Sue Fenlon



Exhibiting his Ford Escort xr3i cabriolet was local resident Martin Allen. These days he displays the car at local shows, such as this one and Clungunford. He and Sue also use it for the occasional trip to Ludlow, weather permitting. Martin originally bought her back in 1993 and fell in love with her, partly because the DJ number-plate, as he was DJing at the time!

As anyone who has had a red car will witness, they do tend to fade to pink over time and Martin went for a full Rossa Red respray. Many changes have followed, but as Martin has said, "it has all been so worth it though, she is a pleasure to take out, especially on sunny days and I enjoy showing her at local events too"

Also exhibiting was local resident Richard Chandler, with two motorbikes. One was a very rare Triumph

Bonneville. Built in 1973 at Meriden in Warwickshire, at the time of industrial unrest, this 650cc version was blockaded in the workshop for several months. It was released for sale in 1974. By then the new 750ccc version was being produced. This small batch was produced to use up existing stock of barrels and pistons. It is otherwise identical to the 750cc version.



Editor



As another summer draws to a close and autumn is on its way, I still can't get over thinking about the start of the school term! It has been a long time since I set off to catch the school bus for a new academic year, but September will always mean the start of something new.

Bucknell WI always has a more relaxing time during the summer months. We had a garden party for our July meeting, held in a member's garden (always a reason for a good tidy up!) and this

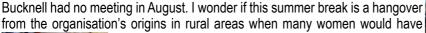
year, as usual, we were lucky with the weather. It is an opportunity for an informal chat as we share food that we all contribute, with a glass or two of wine – or not. This year we enjoyed a game based on the TV show Pointless and it was just enough to challenge us but not too much!



We really felt the need to relax after a major event for us in June when we hosted a Ramble.

actually two walks, open to all Shropshire WI members. It was a lovely day, thoroughly enjoyed – after the event – by us all. As you would expect, we put on a wonderful afternoon tea for our guests after their walks and we were helped with the refreshments and the walking by many of

our members, friends and husbands - yes, even men!!



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been involved with harvesting in one way or another. These days many groups are based in towns, with perhaps a different slant to their life. The sad episodes of violence and unrest in our cities and towns over the summer caused the National WI Chair to send us all an email, reminding us of that aspect of WI life. "The Women's Institute - your WI

- has always, fearlessly stood up for the equality of all members of our collective society; and each of you reinforces these key values of community and friendship in all you do, every day. The WI community reaches out far and wide, warmly welcoming every culture, colour, and nationality; from our conversation cafes providing friendship to refugees and migrant women, to fundraising for causes that support disenfranchised communities, and the very makeup of our membership."

This may seem a long way from our Ramble, our games, food and wine event in a small village in Shropshire but that idea of community and friendship is key. So if, like me, you expect to be starting something new every September, how about giving the WI a go? September's meeting features some of our talented members showing off their craft skills and a chance to try one; October brings a talk about the Animal version of the Victoria Cross and November will be a Magic and Mystery night.

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News from the Police County Lines

County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas.

They exploit vulnerable people, including children and those with mental health or addiction issues, by recruiting them to distribute the drugs, often referred to as 'drug running'.

OCGs often use high levels of violence and intimidation to protect the 'county line' and control them.

There are several signs to look out for that may indicate someone is involved in county lines:

- Repeatedly going missing from school or home and being found in other areas
- Having money, new clothes or electronic devices and can't explain how they paid for them
- Getting high numbers of texts or phone calls, being secretive about who they're speaking to
- Decline in school or work performance
- Significant changes in emotional or physical well-being

If you're concerned about drug-related crime in your area or think someone may be a victim of drug exploitation, please call us on 101, email bccar.snt@westmercia.police.uk or report online www.westmercia.police.uk

Scam Emails

Fake emails and text messages can be difficult to spot as criminals are constantly creating genuine-looking messages.

Whether it's an email asking you to "verify" your bank account details, or a text message claiming you've missed a delivery and are required to pay a redelivery fee, the goal is usually the same - to trick you into revealing personal and financial information. This is usually done by attempting to get you to click a link. This will take you to a website which might download a virus to your computer, or steal passwords or other personal information. This is sometimes known as 'phishing'.

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) has the power to investigate and remove scam email addresses and websites. It's free to report a suspicious email and it only takes a minute. By reporting phishing attempts you can:

- reduce the amount of scam emails you receive
- make yourself a harder target for scammers
- protect others from cyber crime online

If you have received an email which you believe to be a scam or you're not quite sure about, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. You don't need to forward emails you find in your spam/junk folder.

For further information about reporting scam emails or text messages please refer to www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams

BUCKNELL NEW VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

This update follows the one issued on 31 May.

At Last

Red Kite Ecology Consultants were appointed by the Memorial Hall Committee in May to undertake a Bio-Diversity Feasibility Assessment on the site for the New Village Hall. This Assessment is required by the Shropshire Council Planning Authority as part of the application for Full Planning Permission. The Assessment is required to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed development on existing habitats and, since February 2024, developers are required to demonstrate a Bio-Diversity net gain of at least 10% over existing habitats and features. Red Kite, working closely with Liverpool University School of Architecture and Prince Architects, have managed to demonstrate a net gain in excess of the requirement.

The completion of Red Kite's work enabled the Full Planning application to be submitted to Shropshire Council for validation. This was completed in early August and full details are now available on Shropshire Council's Planning portal for public comment until 27 August. A decision is expected in October.

Mike Alderton, 9th August 2024

STOP PRESS - CIO and Founding Trustees

At its August meeting the Hall Management Committee voted unanimously to convert the present unincorporated Bucknell Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Charity into a a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This process will take a few months to complete starting with the setting up and registering of a new CIO with the Charity Commission. Whilst the new CIO will replace the existing Charity, its purposes will be the same as the existing Charity. Three founding Trustees will be appointed to launch the new CIO with additional Trustees elected by ballot at its first AGM later this year. The founding Trustees cannot be drawn from the Trustees or Committee members of the existing unincorporated Charity to avoid a possible conflict of interest. Members of the public attending the AGM of the existing Charity (to be held in February 2025) will be required to vote on the transfer of the Charity's assets to the new CIO. At least two-thirds of those attending and voting in favour of the transfer are required for it to be effective.

Operating as a CIO will enable the Charity to have its own legal identity enabling it to hold property and enter into contracts in its own right. Trustees and members will not be personally liable for what it does and for the debts of the CIO as long as their decisions and actions are reasonable and lawful. Possible funders will be more inclined to invest large sums of money in an incorporated Charity.

Plenty of notice will be given in advance of the two AGMs. Both meetings are important for the new Village Hall project and I would hope for a good turnout. Anyone wanting further information about the role of Founding Trustee shoould contact

Mike Alderton, Project Coordinator, 07802 367126 or email bmhc@btinternet.com



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The Rev Dr Martin Quayle Priest in Charge St Mary's Bucknell writes:

I suspect most of you will have heard that a young person died in Bucknell earlier in the summer. I don't want to write about this specific tragedy, but I do want to address some aspects about mental health, and rural communities like ours. Mental health problems are not confined to rural parts of the country, but there are specific aspects which are of concern in the countryside. Perhaps the most important thing for all of us to hold in mind, is that although some people need the care of professionals and those trained in counselling, therapy and medical care, all of us can make a difference in a positive sense, but equally, we can cause problems by getting things wrong.

The number of people dealing with mental health issues is considerable. It is said that a quarter of the population suffer from some kind of mental health problem during their lives, and now that stigma is lifting, the reporting may increase these figures. Anecdotally, some towns have over half the population taking some kind of medication relating to distress or emotional disturbance. When we consider the kind of world our younger generations are inheriting, and the pressures many have to cope with, it is understandable that so many experience 'wobbles' of some kind or another.

The good news is that the simple quality of kindness - taking an interest in others, or doing practical things for neighbours (taking out bins or collecting shopping) can help to alleviate loneliness. Loneliness or isolation is a major problem, and the difficulty around poverty and 'hidden poverty' means that those who need help are often not noticed. There is a difference between nosiness and taking an interest, and we all know what it is. Knocking on a door to ask if things are okay is a good thing to do - engaging in malicious gossip is not. I have exaggerated a little, but I hope you get the point. Negativity and criticism can have consequences. We should all be careful about language and judgement.

How we respond and react to those who are a little 'different' means a lot. And for those who are on their own, finding gentle ways of saying that they are noticed, is helpful. I am very proud of the work that the café does in St Mary's, and some of our church help with Butty Van, a project which takes breakfast to the farming community. There are many other projects which tackle isolation and we should support these as they can make a tremendous difference to many.

Finally, referring problems is a good thing to do. Passing on information about concerns is helpful. The church has a duty of caring for the vulnerable and needy, and this is something which I see as critical to the church's role in the community. GPs, social services and in extremis, the police will all take notice of sensitive observations about problems. Communities matter. We can all contribute to making life happier and more pleasant by being and doing the right thing in relationships.

Priest in Charge: Rev. Dr. Martin Quayle (part-time post)
All enquiries to: Benefice Administrator: Margie Savery
01547 530 282 or 07929 145 042 Email: office.middlemarches@gmail.com

For information on any Church events please contact Debbie Pope, Church Warden on 530919

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Led by Bee Morris, our free Digital Skills Programme works with all of the groups affected by this digital divide, as well as those who are socially isolated, families with lower incomes and people experiencing homelessness to ensure they can safely and confidently access digital services by delivering drop-in sessions and one-to-one workshops, either at Qube or at your home.

If you or someone you may know can benefit from using this programme, you can find out more by calling 01691 656882 or emailing info@gube-oca.org.uk



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Aardvark Books

www.aardvark-books.com

So many books, a café too - Upcoming Events

7th - 15th September 2024: Take Nine Bedstone Art Group Showcase for Herefordshire Art week

Sunday 6th October 2024, 9am-2pm, Aardvark Car Boot, Live music, tea, coffee and the inevitable bacon butties!

1st December 2024 Aardvark Christmas Fair - vintage, crafts and more, with live music, delicious mince pies and mulled wine, and festive treats in the café!

We are open Tuesday - Sunday 10am - 4pm (closed Mondays) and the <u>cafe</u> offers a range of hot and cold drinks, light lunches, and homemade cakes.

The Bookery, Manor Farm, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, Shropshire SY7 0DH Tel: 01547 530 744 Email: aardvaark@btconnect.com
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BUCKNELL MEMORIAL HALL

QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 7 September 7.30pm.

Maximum of 4 people per team. Book in advance preferred.

£5 per person to include supper. Bar applied for.

Contact Derek (01547 530422) or Nicky (07973 563829)

60's 70's 80's DISCO Saturday 12 October 8pm to midnight Disco by LADY DJ Prize for best fancy dress Tickets £7.50 Contact Nicky (07973 563829) or Claire (07914 447646)

FESTIVE CONCERT Saturday 7 December 7.30 pm Ludlow Male Voice Choir Tickets £10 to include mince pies and non alcoholic Festive Punch Contact Sylvia (01547 530422) or Christine (01547 530249)

All the above events in aid of Bucknell Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Charity



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Who's Who

Bucknell Memorial Hall

Chair: Nicky Edwards - 07973 563 829 Vice Chair: Roger Bates - 01547 530 062

Treasurer: Dorothy Edwards - 01547 530 252 Bookings: Christine Price - 01547 530 249

Bucknell Women's Institute

President: Marion Cox - 07964 710 983

Email marioncox89@gmail.com

Secretary: Carole Garland - 01547 530 951

Treasurer: Jane Pallet - Email j.s.willis@live.co.uk

Bucknell Flood Action Group

David Webb: 07545 544 208

Bedstone & Hopton Castle Village Hall

Bookings: Chris & Margie Savery 01547 530 282 Email: bedstonehoptoncastlevh@hotmail.co.uk

Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

Chair: Carol Davies - 07774 428 373 **Vice Chair:** Sam Walmsley 07974 707 932

Clerk: Nancy Adams - 01588 641 154

BUCKNELL:

Councillors: Nicola Edwards 07973 563 829, Vivienne Dodd 01547 530 478, Will Davies 07970 136 169

lan Owen - 01547 530 616

BEDSTONE:

Councillor(s): Chris Savery 07855 885 309, and one

vacancy

For further details (yet to be updated) please see: https://bedstoneandbucknell.org/parishcouncil/

St. Mary's Church, Bucknell - part of The Middle Marches Benefice for Bedstone, Bucknell, Chapel Lawn, Clungunford, Hopton Castle, Llanfair Waterdine and Stowe.

Bucknell Churchwarden(s): Debbie Pope 07929 823568 and currently one other vacancy.

Church enquiries to Margie Savery please.

Contact: Margie Savery on 01547 530 282

or 07929 145 042 or

Email: office.middlemarches@gmail.com

Bedstone Art Group

Anne Holding - call or text 07528 536 760

Email: anneholding89@gmail.com

Bucknell Nurseries

Andrew & Nick Coull - 01547 530 606

Lance Phillips Quality Butchers

01547 530 233

Bucknell Post Office

Klaus Steffes - 01547 530 201

Bucknell Youth Club

Jim Hughes - 07980 883 785 hughes_jim@msn.com

Bucknell Allotment Association

Chair: Colin Carter 07952147627

Secretary: Sally Sparrow - 07866 318 301 Treasurer: Heather Walker - 07787 157 305

Belmont Garage (Greens)

Dorothy Edwards - 01547 530 252

Community First Responders

Nicky Edwards - 07973 563 829 Samuel Winter - 07779 335 996

Clun Valley AED Scheme (Defibrillator)

lan Owen - 01547 530 616

St. Mary's Primary School, Bucknell

Head Teacher: Anna Cook - 01547 530 264 Website: www.bucknellprimaryschool.org

The Sitwell Arms

Rob and Kerry - 01547 530 213

Tots & Tinies - every Thursday from 10-12 Kelsey 07975 546 763 totsandtinies.bucknell@gmail.com

Hairdressing

Sam Smith - 07528 633 450)

RGH Car Repairs

Ralph and Neil Harris - 01547 530 676

Member of Parliament for Ludlow

Stuart Anderson MP - 0207 2197731

Email: stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

Shropshire Council - Clun Division

Councillor: Nigel Hartin - 07583 962 292

The Bucknell Newsletter

A small team of volunteers look after the interests of the Bucknell Newsletter.

• Chair Peter Barron - 01547 530 206

Editor David Webb - editor@bucknellnews.co.uk
 77545 5440000

07545 544208

• Treasurer Beverley Stone - 07484 280 259 (Voicemail available)

• Proof-reading and distribution A band of loyal volunteer helpers - thank you.

The deadline for inclusion can vary so please contact me ASAP for details.

To contribute, please send news, articles, events, relevant photographs, stories, other items of interest or advertisement enquiries to: editor@bucknellnews.co.uk

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ADVERTISING

Many thanks go to the local businesses that support us by advertising within this newsletter, for without their support publication could not continue. If you would like to advertise, please contact David at the above email address or by telephoning 07545544208.

2024 advertisement prices per quarterly edition: *

Rear cover page £45.00 colour on 150 gsm paper.

Full page b/w = £30.00 or £40.00 colour.

Half page b/w = £18.00 or £27.00 colour.

Quarter page b/w = £10.00 or £12.00 colour.

Small 1/8th page b/w = £6.00 or £8.00 colour.

NB: All advertisement sizes are approximate. Advertisers may request a specific page for their colour advertisement at no additional cost, e.g. page 2, centrefold, penultimate page, back page, subject to availability and adequate notification.

* Payment by cash, cheque, or BACS is required prior to printing - details are available on request. Invoices will generally be sent out approximately 6-8 weeks before publication.

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