

MAYFLOWER NEWS

VOL 2/19
FEB/MAR
2019

"A journey to **I**nformation **S**upport **S**ocialising & **F**riendship"
IRIS BULL—CHAIRPERSON TEL: 01767 318434 MOBILE 07720 853364

**Gill Reeves—
Biggleswade
Community Agent**

07534 484750 or e-mail on
gillr@bedsrcc.org.uk.

Your Community Agent Gill Reeves is here to help any resident that lives in Biggleswade. The service is largely funded by Biggleswade Town Council and is free and confidential. Gill R is DBS checked and employed part time by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity; to assist residents with issues that may be causing them concern.

Gill can work with residents over the phone or within their own home. Gill has helped residents with things like applying for Attendance Allowance (which is for those over 65 and have a disability that affects their daily living). Gill can help with Blue Badge application and assist with form filling, budgeting, feeling safer at home and connecting people to a befriender, local groups and clubs. Gill can also refer people to the organisations and agencies that already exist to help people, such as Citizens Advice Bureau, Social Services, Occupational Therapy, Central Bedfordshire Council and Carers in Bedfordshire.

Gill came along to the Mayflower Club to give us an update on her role. She ran a quiz 'with a difference' asking questions we should know the answer to, but often don't. As you may know, this newsletter is being produced for those people who don't use social media or e-mails, or have a 'smartphone'. Most services now have to be applied for 'on line', so it was heartening to know that Sainsburys will take an order OVER THE PHONE. One snippet none of us knew! Telephone them on 0800 328 1700 and choose option 3. Another was that if you have trouble moving your wheely bin to your boundary you can ask for assisted bin collection. Some knew - some didn't.

Gill brought along equipment such as grabbers, torches, thermometers, green message in a bottles plug pulls, plug lights and thermal hats & gloves (my hat is very comfortable) A donation towards their cost is optional. All the equipment is donated or funded from donations. The Club gave her a contribution in thanks.

Gill is arranging for myself and our chairman, Iris, to meet with Biggleswade Good Neighbours to discuss ways we can help each other, particularly through this newsletter. (More about this overleaf). Contact Gill if you would like any information that could help you with your situation why not give her a call.

Shirley Legate



**Bedfordshire Rural
Communities Charity**

COFFEE MORNINGS
Tuesdays at Trinity Church **Wednesdays** at Weatherley Centre **Fridays** at Baptist Church (term time only) **Saturdays** at St Andrew's Church

WEEKLY LUNCH CLUB
Every Wednesday 2 course lunch Labour Hall £5 12noon-1.45 bookings 01767 448954 transport £1.50 return

CHURCH LUNCHEs
1st Thursday of month at Trinity Church £5 (just turn up at noon)
2nd Thursday at St Andrews £5 noon (add name to list in foyer)
Sunday Lunch 1st Sunday of month at St Andrew's Church £6 12.30 (add name to list in foyer)

MAYFLOWER CLUB MEETINGS
RUMMIKUB/TRIOMINOS/CARDS
Every Wed £1.50 at Labour Hall 2-4 £1.50 limited transport available

FRIDAY SOCIAL CLUB
Weekly 2pm at St Andrew's Church. £1.50 Games/Speakers/Outings. Raffle. Door to door transport £1.50.
 Bingo dates listed below £2.50 entry

FORTNIGHTLY BINGO SESSIONS
 On 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at the Labour Hall, Crab Lane, £2.50



Rotary  Club of Biggleswade Ivel

WHO KILLED THE DIRECTOR?

A Murder Mystery Evening
Presented by Stratton Upper School
Friday 1st March at Stratton Upper School
Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8JB

TICKETS £15.00

(to include Fish and Chips)

licensed bar/car parking

Telephone 07769 976739 or e-mail
commonfarm13@btinternet.com



DOORS OPEN 1.50 EYES DOWN 2.20

(see above for venues)

FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

MONDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

FRIDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

MONDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

MONDAY 8TH MARCH

THE MAYFLOWER NEWSLETTER PROJECT

As you may know from earlier editions of this newsletter, the Mayflower Club received a donation of thousands of pounds when the Older Persons Action Group (OPAG) disbanded in December 2014. This has secured our future, but the Club members have now agreed to share some of this windfall with the local community. Firstly by making a donation to the Ivel Flix, and secondly by sharing our newsletter with Biggleswade and the surrounding area.

Between 2004-2014 OPAG received a grant from both the National Lottery and Comic Relief, as well as fundraised themselves to run our club, the Monday Bingo, and Ivel Flix. (Our Wednesday Games afternoon came later) Surpluses were put by in the hope that they could raise enough to purchase their own community centre for the benefit of people over 50 in the community. But by 2014 this was no longer feasible and they disbanded and shared the money between local organisations, including our club.

The current Mayflower Club members have agreed to fund this newsletter out of that windfall and circulate it over the town, and the villages if possible, by either e-mailing a copy to leaders of local groups and organisations, asking them to share it with their members, or leaving it at places in the town for people to pick up. Currently we can drop copies at the Town Council, Saffron Road GP surgery, Shoe co Ltd. 389 High Street and Sweet Alley sweetshop 1-3 Abbots Walk. If you know of any other places that are prepared to take them, or wish to be added to our e-mailing list, or have a paper copy delivered to your door, please let Shirley or Brian Legate know at the contact details below.

Our idea is to bring information together and offer space in this newsletter, for activities, services or public information that you feel could benefit from more publicity. We would also like to work closer with local organisations to help organise outings and events that one organisation may not by itself be able to achieve.

We have changed the name from the Mayflower Club News, to just Mayflower News. We wish to build up a network of local groups, and be able to provide them with an opportunity to tell the community about themselves. We would like to make the newsletter larger if and when we can afford it.

Affordable printing is our main outlay and unfortunately the cost went up by 50% last month! Fortunately through Churches Together we have been offered small scale printing at an affordable rate.

It is early days, but the funding is there for the foreseeable future. We are fortunate in Biggleswade to have various publications. Our one is very basic, hopefully will be produced monthly and its layout its relatively cheap and easy to produce. We hope you can encourage as many people as possible to receive a copy. Large print copies will be available to deliver.

Our contact details are below.

FOR ARTICLES SUGGESTIONS WHAT'S ON ETC. CONTACT

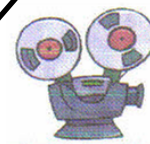
Shirley Legate, Mayflower Club Secretary 20 Kitelands Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8NX Tel: 01767 448954 Mobile: 07988 822678 e-mail: shirley.legate@gmail.com

MAYFLOWER CLUB NEWS

NEIL SANDS—SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY
BEDFORD CORN EXCHANGE

Wednesday 15th May 2019

Tickets will be on sale to club members from February for Neil Sands' new show, to include a commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the D Day Landings. The cost is £13 each, including coach travel from Biggleswade Bus Station. Pick up is 12.45 and we expect to be back at the bus station by 6pm. There will be no Biggleswade Lunch Club on that day, but its members are invited to also come to the show if they wish.



IVEL FLIX
COMMUNITY
CINEMA

Sat 9th February— FINDING YOUR FEET

On the eve of retirement a middle class, judgmental snob discovers her husband has been having an affair with her best friend and is forced into exile with her bohemian sister who lives on an impoverished inner-city council estate. Starring Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie, Timothy Spall. 12A certificate.

Doors open 2.30 film starts at 3pm £4 on the door. Parking. The Canada Block, Biggleswade Academy Mead End, Biggleswade SG18 8JU

NEXT FILM - SAT MARCH 9TH

WONDER

Starring Julia Roberts & Owen Winston

Mayflower Club has now purchased more Bobby Scheme bells, alarms and security items. Contact Brian or Shirley Legate



BOBBY SCHEME—provides a courtesy home security service for elderly and vulnerable people in Bedfordshire

Telephone: 01234 842619

Their team are all trained carpenters, lock fitters and crime prevention advisers. They support victims of crime and fit security devices to ensure the property is secure. Although the service is free there may be a charge for some specialist equip-