

Village Hall News

Joanne Holyland writes:

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank all who came along to the pop-up art and craft sale. Thank you also to the creative and talented group of stall holders.



Not forgetting the wonderful Bitteswell Bakers who provided the delicious cakes!

Please call in for a complimentary cuppa and a chat with your neighbours. We would be so pleased to see you. [First Friday of every month 10am—12pm](#)

For all enquires and bookings: contact Claire or Paul bitteswellvillagehall@gmail.com or phone 01455 559597

Bitteswell WI

The WI meet second Tuesday in the month at the Village Hall at 7.30pm Everyone welcome

Remember to send photos, memories, special events, news items
Bitteswellnewsletter@gmail.com
Sharee Editor on 07834 689828

The United Charities of Bitteswell

Did you know we have a charity in the village that dates back almost 500 years?

In March 1538 Robert Dowse with Robert Lord and two others set up two Charitable Trusts for the general benefit of Bitteswell. In June 1907 other charities of Jane Crisp, John Day and John Harrison were combined with those of Robert Dowse and the Ecclesiastical Charity of Robert Dowse. Together these 5 charities were renamed The United Charities in September 1977. The Jim & Amy Deacon Charity, administered as part of the United Charities was created from a legacy left to the village on the death of Jim Deacon in 1989.

So, what and who does the Charity support?

One third of the income from the Dowse fund is paid to the Parochial Church Council towards the maintenance and improvement of the Church and Churchyard. The balance is used to support events, and activities in the village along with the support to clubs, the newsletter and societies in the Village.

The income from the Jim & Amy Deacon fund is used to fund taxis for villagers needing transport for hospital appointments when no other transport is available to them.

The Charities also give grants to students starting further educational courses and if you are starting University this Autumn please contact John Booth (john7319@gmail.com) so that the Trustees can consider your application.

In 2022 the Charity gave grants as follows:

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event £1000
Contribution towards Village Green Maintenance £700
Taxis £421
Educations grants £5,325
St. Mary's School Grant £300
Local Food Bank £1000

And so far this year it's supported the Kings Coronation event on the Village Green, and given a grant for equipment and kit for Bitteswell Cricket Club.

The Trustees meet once a quarter in the Village Hall and the Charity currently has a [Vacancy for a Trustee](#) so if you are interested in giving a little bit of time back to support the village, please contact John Booth for details (john7319@gmail.com)

BITTESWELL NEWSLETTER

Funded by United Charities

July/August 2023

Get ready for the Sunflower Festival & Produce Show!



Lots of categories, fun for all!

Saturday 23rd September
12pm—5pm
St. Mary's Church,
Bitteswell

Open to everyone
Entry forms available with next
newsletter early September

Bitteswellproduceshow@gmail.com

See inside for more details

Anna Smith writes

PRODUCE SHOW Hopefully the schedule for the produce show has been delivered round the village and further afield as well. Entry is open to everyone.

An entry form will be circulated with the September newsletter with details where to return them.

The committee have worked hard to find classes that will suit all ages and abilities. **BUT the main aim is to have a community day, fun and good humoured competition.**

Don't forget the exciting prospect of the prize money.... Well a small token but the chance to win enough points to be the overall show winner.

Please find time and enthusiasm to support this new idea. During the afternoon light refreshments will be served with profits being shared between the church and the village hall.

SUNFLOWERS Worryingly we seem to have chosen the worst summer, weatherwise for growing plants.

If your plants are growing very well, congratulations but if you are concerned they won't last, don't forget a photograph with a measure of height and/or circumference could make you a winner.

Otherwise keep feeding and watch out for those sneaky slugs and snails.

We think you will be surprised how different sunflowers can be.....please visit the church even if you are not an exhibitor.

Harvest Supper 23rd September 6.30pm

Lucinda Nimmo writes

In addition to the potentially fabulous weekend of the Sunflower Festival and Bitteswell Produce Show, there will be a Harvest Supper held in the village hall to celebrate food and good company. Tickets will be on a first come, first serve basis, these shall be available in the September, more details to come in the next newsletter. Till then book the 23rd September as a night off from the kitchen!

Get growing, jamming, preserving and stitching, knitting and photographing.

Pete Smith Memorial Match

Anna Smith writes

On July 2nd, Bitteswell Cricket club members organised a day of cricket in memory of Pete, who sadly passed away suddenly just over a year ago. It proved to be a great success with over £4400 raised for Hope against Cancer, a local charity close to the hearts of the club and family members. The support on the day was overwhelming but also very special. It would have pleased Pete to see so many friends connected to the club enjoying the sport he had supported locally and further afield for over 6 decades. The youngsters put on a marvellous display of skills in the morning and the afternoon match between ANDY SMITHS ALL STARS and BITTESWELL LEGENDS was hard hitting and enjoyable, with the All Stars winning. The perpetual honour to Pete was the clubs decision to re-name the ground and to dedicate it to him.



Pete played his first senior game aged eleven, continued playing for the club and also for Leicestershire as a Silver Fox. He was fortunate to be able to play alongside both of his grandfathers in the early years, his father Roy, his son Andrew and his son in law Keith. Latterly he worked with the development of the juniors at Bitteswell. He played the game seriously and honourably, taught youngsters to have the same approach and expected players of all ages to play to their highest standard achievable.

The club celebrated its centenary in 2003 and went on tour to Barbados. Pete fell in love with the island, understandably because of the respect and love the islanders seemed to have for the game and possibly because of the Rum!!



In 2004, 2007 and 2008 Pete played alongside and against many first class cricketers playing in the Pro-Am festivals held in Barbados travelling there with Kibworth C.C. Mark Ramprakash,, Phil Tufnell, Gladstone Small, Nick Knight, Darren Stevens are just a few of the players who shared the spirit of the competition and company of fellow sportsmen.

Happy memories

Diamond Wedding Congratulations

Robert (Bob) and Margaret Greig celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary



"We were married in Edinburgh on 8th June 1963 and moved to Lutterworth in 1966 where we bought up our two children, Karen and Alan, before moving to Valley Lane, Bitteswell in 1966"

...and the King and Queen sent a personally signed note of congratulations

Church News

Charlotte Cowie writes

I am pleased to report that at the AGM, **Mr John Thacker and Mr Nigel Chapman** were elected as church wardens. We are grateful for their commitment to the church and its various links into the village. An oak bench is to be placed in the church grounds in memory of Reginald Flint who served the village and community as a local councillor for many years.



Dates for you diary – Sunflower and Produce Show, Sat 23rd Sept and Harvest Festival, Sun 24th Sept.