

Friends and Neighbours Coffee Morning Village Hall

The Village Hall will continue to host the Friends and Neighbours Coffee Mornings on the first Friday of each month. It is lovely to see so many people come along for a complimentary cuppa and chat. We look forward to seeing you next on Friday 5th April and 3rd May.

Please keep **Saturday 23rd March** as a date for your diary. There will be an Easter themed Coffee Morning, with all proceeds going towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.

For all enquiries and bookings for the Village Hall contact Claire or Paul bitteswellvillagehall@gmail.com or phone 01455 559597

Bitteswell and Bittesby Parish Council— Next Meeting Are held in the Village Hall

To find out about next meeting visit www.bitteswell.org.uk All welcome to attend

Remember to send photos, memories, special events, news items, infact, anything relating to village life and its residents Bitteswellnewsletter@gmail.com Sharee on 07834 689828

Village History

In 1841 the building of Bitteswell Hall, north of the village brought employment and new families as it had its own farms, gas installation etc., but in the 1920s it was demolished, the land and buildings split up.

The village also had its own airfield; a station called <u>RAF</u> <u>Bitteswell</u>. The construction of the grass airfield started in March 1940 and by August 1941 night flight training was able to commence using <u>Vickers Wellington</u> bombers. By 1943, three concrete runways were completed with connecting perimeter track and hard standings.

After <u>World War II</u>, <u>Hawker Siddeley</u> built a factory next to the airfield, where <u>Vulcan</u> bombers (and many other aircraft including the Red Arrows in later years were maintained. What a sight and sound it must have been!

Today this land is occupied by Magna Park.

Bitteswell Airfield is regarded as an important site in British military and aviation history.



BITTESWELL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024

Village Hall Easter Fundraising Coffee Morning

Saturday 23rd March in the Village Hall 10am—12noon



Tea.

Coffee,

Hot Cross Buns and Easter Cakes Plus Raffle and an egg colouring activity for the children.

Fun and Friendship for all

Funded by United Charities

Memorial Bench of Reg Flint Clerk to Bitteswell Parish Council writes:

All who knew Reg Flint, who served his community so well (latterly as Chairman of the Parish Council), will be pleased to see his memorial bench has been erected by his family in the Churchyard. This was supported by a church 'faculty' and with the Parish Council thanks.



Over the Rainbow Picture captured by Phil Chambers

Many of you may have been lucky enough to spot a full rainbow over the village in February and we are so pleased that Phil captured the moment for all to enjoy.



Please keep your photos coming in! Send them to Bitteswwellnewsletter@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church Bitteswell



Good Friday

Children's Easter garden building in the churchyard at 10am – our yearly activity where children from the village help make a beautiful Easter garden in the niche outside the church. Refreshments provided

Easter Sunday

Easter Holy Communion at 9.30 am 31st March

Easter Lily

If anyone would like to remember a loved one by paying for an Easter Lily to be placed in the altar flowers at Easter they should contact Claire Davies on 07949 532555 **Bitteswell WI Diary**

NEW YEAR, NEW TIME! We are moving our meetings to the 3rd Tuesday in the month 2pm until 4pm visitors always welcome, come along and see what we do

Dawn Reynolds writes: We started our new time of meeting in January and so far it has been a great success. More of our members have been attending and each month the visitor numbers have increased. This is so encouraging and we hope it will continue.

In January we enjoyed a trip to The Curve to see Evita, more theatre trips are planned through the year.

Our March meeting will be on 19th March at 2pm. Dave Andrews will be giving his talk on Richard III—'Bones in the Car Park'

April 16th will be a social afternoon. Time to chat, enjoy a coffee and cake with our WI friends, with maybe a quiz or game thrown in!

All welcome, please come along and bring a friend to see what your local WI is doing.

Please send your news, anniversaries, birthdays, photos, events, births, engagements, marriages, family announcements to:

Bitteswellnewsletter@gmail.com

Visitors always Welcome