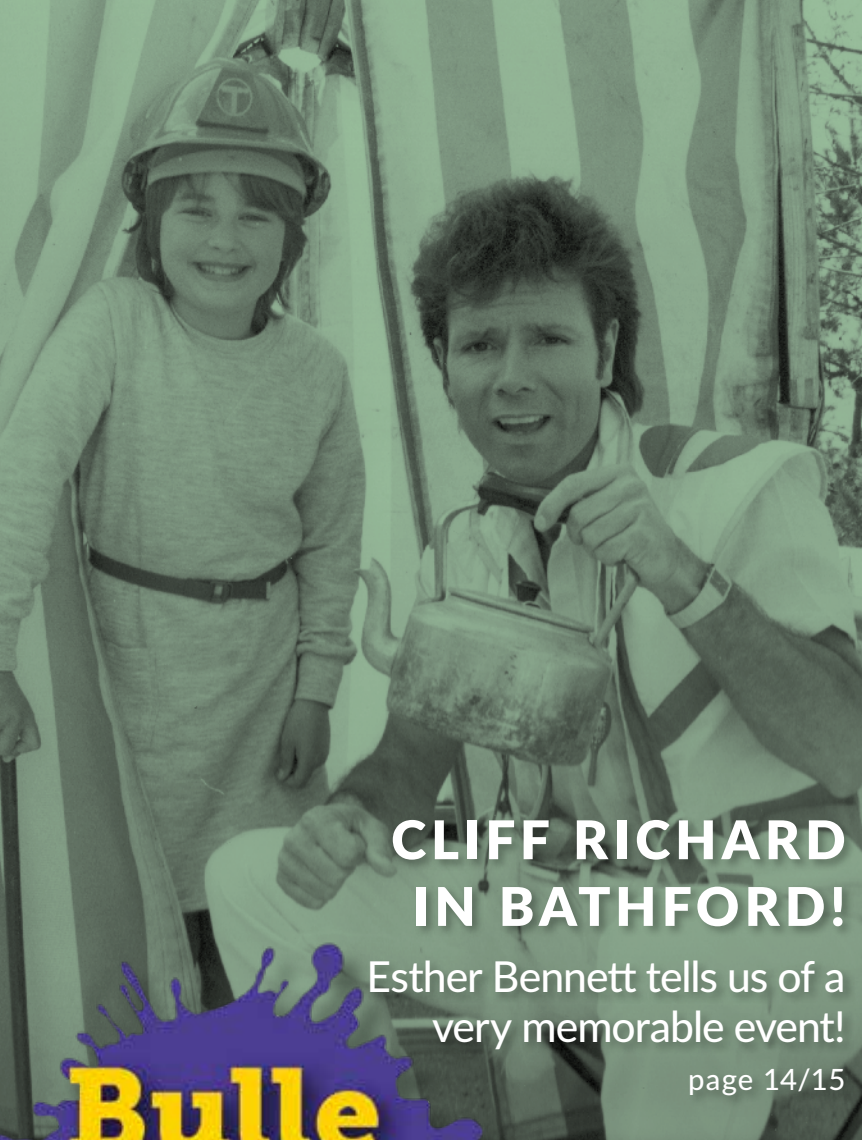


# Bathford Bulletin



## CLIFF RICHARD IN BATHFORD!

Esther Bennett tells us of a  
very memorable event!

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**Bulle**  
**teen**

THE DofE AWARD

YOUNG PEOPLE &  
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Catherine Tait – Editorial  
Charlie Barden – Editorial

We welcome all articles, images and notifications of births, deaths and marriages. Please email for contributors guidelines: [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bathfordbulletin@gmail.com)

**THE BATHFORD BULLETIN NEEDS YOU!!**

Fancy having a go at writing articles for the Bulletin? Interested in joining the Editorial Team? Can you use InDesign and have some spare time to help with the design and artwork? You would be most welcome! Email [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bathfordbulletin@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like to know more.

**JULY ISSUE COPY DEADLINE**

Contributions and advertisements are welcome, up to but **no later than 13 June 2025** via: [bathfordbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bathfordbulletin@gmail.com)

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**COVER PHOTOGRAPH**

Gillian Bennett and Cliff Richard from a collection of photographs shared by Esther Bennett



**WELCOME**

**Greetings Pop Pickers! It's as if you can hear Alan 'Fluff' Freeman's voice blasting out of your wireless back in '85 introducing Cliff Richard's latest release. Happy memories!** And that's just what you're invited to share with Esther Bennett, reliving the time when she was surprised to find Cliff on her doorstep in Mountain Wood, 40 years ago! Relive the experience in the centrespread article on [pages 14/15](#).

We've a packed programme this month with a bumper Bulletin full of activities and interests in and around the parish, both in - and outdoor. Check out [page 21](#) about the **Wild Waters Festival** taking place on our **River Avon** and **By Brook**. There's so much to see and do for all ages, it deserves taking a look at their website.

How many of us have marvelled at the exploits of those aviators featured in the 'Top Gun' movies? Pure fiction? Not at all, as Bathford-raised Tristan Le Lohé has proved. See [page 17](#).

Our new feature **Bulleteen+** ([pages 8/9](#)) is developing nicely, targeted towards youth culture in our community and around Bath. Our two new contributors Catherine and Charlie are looking this month at personal effort and achievement, and how youth can have a voice in local politics.

Summer's coming, so take a look at the season's recommended reading for adults and kids on [pages 12/13](#).

In sports, we celebrate the winners and participants in the recent Unfun Run – [page 23](#), and we've added Bathford Cricket Club's home fixtures to the **What's On page**.

**Look out for a special weekend of 4 and 5 July.** The St. Swithun's quiz night on Friday - [page 19](#)- followed by a whole Saturday extravaganza at **Follyfest** on the **Recreation ground**. Loads of activities and entertainment throughout the afternoon and evening. Get your tickets...NOW. See [page 20](#) for details.

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## ST SWITHUN'S FILM CLUB

Join us at St. Swithuns Church, Bathford on Monday 23 June 2025 at 14:00 for screening of: Diana.



Celebrated and adored by millions, Princess Diana (played by double Academy Award nominee Naomi Watts) was at one time the most famous woman in the world. She inspired a nation with her generosity, compassion and kindness, and in her final years she would meet the man who in turn inspired her. 'Diana' introduces a time in the princess's life that was uniquely important in shaping her final years, fulfilling her search for true happiness and sealing her legacy.

Stay after the film for complimentary tea and cake. (Suggested donation: £3)

For all enquiries, please contact: keithmilner5@yahoo.co.uk



## THIS MONTH AT THE VILLAGE CLUB

Here we are in June – light mornings and light evenings and plenty of sunshine – well here's hoping!



### SATURDAY NIGHT'S LIVE ENTERTAINMENT STARTING AT 20:30

Live music is quite something and we have some fabulous acts – if you haven't attended on a Saturday night before you are welcome to come along and your entry will be free of charge – you'll be guaranteed a great evening.

**Saturday 7 June | Sophie Silva**  
An excellent female singer who never fails to entertain.

**Saturday 21 June | Marc Hammond**  
Making his debut at the Club but comes highly recommended.

**Friday 13 June | BINGO**  
Always a great night – lots of prizes, lots of winners – the more we have in attendance, the higher the prize fund – last month the prize fund amounted to well over £300. **Eyes Down at 19:30**

**Friday 27 June | JazzFord**  
The House Band will be back with some great music and then open the floor to all those wanting to join in – always a fabulous evening – everyone is welcome.

Whilst the sun is shining our outdoor tables will be out – please don't hesitate to come and enjoy the space with a nice cool drink or two.

## BATHFORD VILLAGE CHOIR

**Informal Summer Concert**  
Pop in at 20:30 to the Parish Hall on Thursday 3 July  
No tickets required

## BATHFORD QUILT GROUP

The Quilt Group met in May to sort all the wonderful fabrics that people have donated. The next stage will be to cut some of these into strips and sew them together to make the background, which will represent the grounds, fields, and sky over the village. If you have fabric, we are still open to donations.

Next meeting will be at 10:00 on 3 June in the Community Room, Mountain Wood.

For information contact: Heather 07810 867155, Wendy 07814 016962, or Ruth 07966 507922



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Our team of valuers will be on hand from 10am to 3pm at our purpose built auction rooms in Bathford for complimentary valuations and auction advice. Lots of parking, tea & coffee available with the team offering valuations, auction advice, and of course accepting entries into our winter and spring calendar of specialist sales

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**BATHFORD SOCIETY**

Review of April's Talk: Bathford and its Roman Roads  
 Who, Why, What, Where and How? by Peter Martin

If anybody thought that they knew about Roman Roads, our speaker, Mike Haken, from the Roman Roads Research Association, quickly proved them wrong. Most of us probably thought that Roman Roads were straight and paved with stone; absolutely not! They were built with whatever materials were to hand, including being floated in marshy areas on a brushwork lattice. Some of their roads were straight, but generally they had to work with the contours, like the Fosse Way up Bannerdown Hill. Before construction, three surveys were undertaken: the general direction, working with the contours, and the final realignment. England had a disproportionate (16%) of the roads in the enormous Roman Empire. Why? Because the roads here linked a wide range of smaller settlements, whereas in Europe they linked fewer larger towns. And revealingly after research, roads here that have for hundreds of years been designated Roman have turned out to be mediaeval or later! His talk was breathless with excitement and totally absorbing.

**SEEKING INFORMATION  
 - HELP NEEDED**

The Bathford Society (principally David Howells and Peter Martin) are researching the likely places, usually in battle, where the 23 men of Bathford, commemorated on the memorial in the churchyard at St Swithuns, met their deaths during the First World War. This will form the basis of a Society talk next season. We would be interested in talking to you if you have any memories (probably via your grandparents or older relatives!) of these men or of others from Bathford who served in that war. If so, please contact Peter Martin on 07711 192189 or at [pjminbath@btinternet.com](mailto:pjminbath@btinternet.com)

Roman Road at Stone Street In Sussex

**VISA D'ACCUEIL À ARTANNES SUR INDRE**

On the recent 20th anniversary visit to Artannes, the residents of Bathford were presented with a 'visa' - a humorous way of inviting and welcoming visitors to Artannes without any restraints. It came in the form of a handwritten scroll from the mayor.

Below is part of the text:

*I Isabelle Delacôte, Mayor of Artannes, formally welcome to Artannes, all denizens of Bathford and their descendants and hereby authorise them to partake in the cultural, sporting, educational, gastronomic and other recreational opportunities which are so plentifully available in the aforementioned village and the surrounding region.*

*The beneficial holders of this visa from the esteemed village of Bathford, are encouraged to cultivate unshakable friendships with the inhabitants of Artannes, leading to the flourishing of an ever-closer relationship between our two communities. This visa has a permanent validity with no limit to the number of times it may be used.*

The scroll has now been framed and will go on display in the Parish when a suitable location is found.





# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

- A Chat with Matty by Catherine Tait

It's often talked about in schools, and parents/carers might tell you it's a good idea. But what actually is DofE? And is it worth it? The Bulleteen+ investigates...

Developed in the 1950s by the late Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh's award is a **youth programme for anyone aged 14-24**. It's split into three awards – **Bronze, Silver and Gold**. All of these involve a **Skills, Volunteering and Physical Section**, as well as a multi-day outdoor expedition. If you're doing Gold, you'll complete a **'Residential' – 5 days of group activities with new people somewhere away from home**. What you choose to do for these sections is up to you, so you'll need to pick something you'll enjoy.

While many do DofE through school, you can also do it through organisations like Scouts or Guides. If you're over 18, you can also do Gold independently through **'DofE Direct'**.

**Young Bathfordian Matty is currently in the middle of his Gold Award**. He's already achieved Bronze and Silver, so he's a seasoned DofE-er.

For his previous awards, he completed 2-and 3-day hiking expeditions around **Yatton** and the **Mendips**, learned how to cook, and helped out with **Riding for the Disabled lessons at Wellow Stables**.

Now, for his Gold Award, he swims and trains at the gym, and volunteers at the **Bathford Village Shop**, restocking shelves and sometimes serving in the Café.

**His proudest DofE moment?** Getting his Silver award, and *"doing the expedition and making it to the end"*!

He admitted that the expeditions were quite long and physically challenging, so it's clear that it's not for the faint-hearted. Make sure you're also ready for the time commitment – Bronze lasts for at least 6 months, while for Gold it's at least a year. But as they say, nothing ventured, nothing gained...

**What does it have to recommend it?** *"You're learning new skills and communicating with people"*, says Matty. Besides making you a more rounded person, these are the 'soft skills' beyond academic qualifications that employers tend to look out for.

**Matty's advice for those considering DofE:** *"Give it a go and see how it turns out"*. Good call – you might not want to go all the way to Gold, but either way you've nothing to lose by trying it out. And you might just have some fun along the way...

More on DofE at: [www.dofe.org/about](http://www.dofe.org/about)



Matty serving in the Café

# YOUNG PEOPLE AND POLITICAL CANVASSING - by Charlie Barden

As a young person growing up in a quiet village, politics might feel like something distant for some, discussed on the news and occasionally at dinner. However, after watching the news cycle in recent years I've come to believe that **youth participation in politics isn't just important, it's vital for the future of a country**. Young people can offer fresh ideas, new energy, and often a sense of urgency on issues like the economy, social issues, and health care, plus added tech savviness. Yet only **47% of us 18–24-year-olds voted in 2024\***, and even fewer involve themselves in active campaigns.

**For the last 2 years, I have volunteered to canvass for both local and national candidates during the UK elections**. Admittedly, I was slightly nervous at first; knocking on doors and speaking to strangers just doesn't come naturally to me, especially not knowing how people would react. But the experience turned out to be eye-opening. I **gained confidence** after watching the more experienced volunteers and picked up skills on how to **listen respectfully and debate**, even when people disagreed. I met people from all walks of life, the elderly who'd lived in the area for decades, first time younger voters and many middle-aged residents who have become disillusioned with the situation. Listening to their concerns reminded me that **politics isn't just about Westminster**; the grassroots level is often just as important, with council decisions often having more of an impact on everyday life than the commons.

I'm sharing this because I want other young people in our parish to know; **you don't have to be a genius or political expert to make a difference**. Whether it's voting, canvassing, or just talking about crucial issues that matter to you, however big or small...

...your voice counts.

On the doorstep



\*Source: yougov.co.uk

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## BATHFORD VILLAGE SHOP & CAFÉ

Volunteers at work

As we reflect on the founding of our Community Shop 19 years ago, we feel so grateful to everyone who helped bring it to life – and for the many volunteers who have generously given their time, skills, and financial support over the years. Thanks to their dedication, the Shop has not only survived but flourished – a real achievement for a local co-operative enterprise. Today, over **70 active volunteers** help keep things running smoothly every day, ensuring the Shop remains a vital part of village life.



We're always delighted to see the familiar faces of our regular customers – thank you for your continued support. But this message is also for those who have recently moved to Bathford, or who may have lived here for some time but haven't yet had the chance to visit. Perhaps you've only popped in once or twice for an emergency pint of milk. If that's you – YES, we'd love to welcome you in!

We want this to be your Shop, too. So why not take advantage of the summer sunshine, stop for a chat with our friendly volunteers, and take a proper look around? You might be surprised by what's on offer:

- Fresh breads from Hobbs House Bakery
- Local milk, eggs, cheese, bacon, sausages, pasties and yoghurt
- Nearby breweries' ciders, beers and gins
- A great selection of wines
- Quality greeting cards at reasonable prices
- Baking essentials, cakes, biscuits, and ice cream
- Unique artisan goods from local village artists
- Dry cleaning, free cash machine, photocopying, stamps, village notice board
- Events such as buffet lunches, craft afternoons, and games mornings (Mahjong anyone?)
- Jigsaw library, charity book stall, Warm or Cool Space when needed
- And of course, our Café menu is well worth a browse – whether you're stopping in for coffee, cake, or catch-up.



Many of our visitors from outside the parish are amazed by what they discover. We hope you'll feel the same. Because this is more than just a Shop – it's a place to connect. **And your support is key to helping us carry it forward into the future.**



### NEW! BISTRO CHEF READY MEALS

We're excited to now offer a full range of authentic French ready meals from Bistro Chef – all lovingly prepared locally by Christophe and Brigitte, former owners of the French Bistro café in Larkhall.

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Available now in the Shop!

### PASTRY CHEF IRYNA MALENKO – A Sweet Addition to Bathford Village Shop!

We are thrilled that Bradford based Ukrainian Pastry chef and Masterchef finalist Iryna Malenko, is now supplying the shop with handcrafted cakes and pastries.

Samples of her Honey Cube Cake and Tiramisu Cake were sampled at our recent AGM and much praised.

We are now taking orders for celebration cakes for your special occasions.

Call in the Shop and ask to see her catalogue.



By Isobel Lawes  
and  
Bathford  
Church School

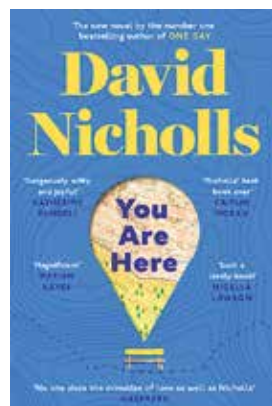
## SUMMER READING

When destiny calls, how might these diverse characters choose the right path to lead them to happiness and fulfilment?

Will they prosper or fall by the wayside?

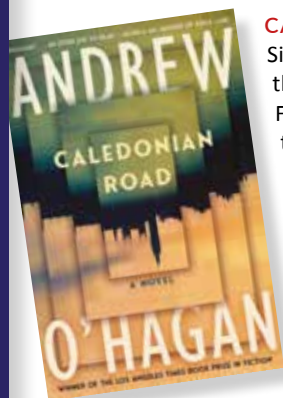
### **YOU ARE HERE** by David Nicholls (2024)

Through a mutual friend, Marnie (a Londoner) and Michael (a Geography teacher) find themselves on an arduous hike from coast to coast across Northern England. Other walkers drop out and this comically mismatched pair decide to press onwards. Both are lonely and low spirited after failed relationships. Slowly they establish a tentative connection along the route (maps provided!). Landscape and weather feature prominently as well as discomforts and embarrassments. Michael does the planning whilst Marnie is copy-editing an erotic thriller in the latest B&B. The culmination of their story is beautifully judged – not soporifically romantic, but cheerfully optimistic.



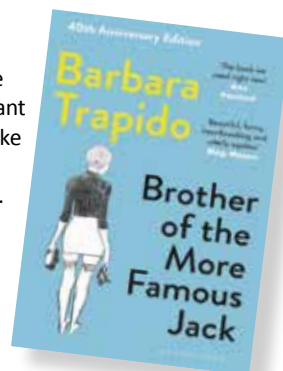
### **CALEDONIAN ROAD** by Andrew O'Hagan (2024)

Sizzling with dramatic energy and satirical humour, the plot traces an eventful year in the life of Campbell Flynn, a celebrated art historian and critic, who comes to grief when he forms a new friendship with one of his students, Milo Magasha, an accomplished hacker and activist. The many vivid characters are linked by their proximity to the eponymous Caledonian Road, but differ significantly in class, age and wealth. In fact, their juxtaposition is fateful, especially for Flynn. O'Hagan presents post-Covid London with all its dazzling, exciting, surface charm whilst acknowledging its underlying, seductive corruption.



### **BROTHER OF THE MORE FAMOUS JACK** by Barbara Trapido (1982)

Katherine Brown's exhilarating first encounter with the Goldman family when she is eighteen launches an instant involvement which is both passionate and enduring. Jake Goldman, her university professor, his wife Jane and their six children welcome her into their fond embrace. She rejoices in their eccentric home, their witty, lewd, uninhibited conversation, and falls painfully in love with one son. Here is a heroine who grows up to discover disillusion and sorrow in adulthood, experiences exile, experiments with love, but at last comes to recognise what is true and worthwhile.



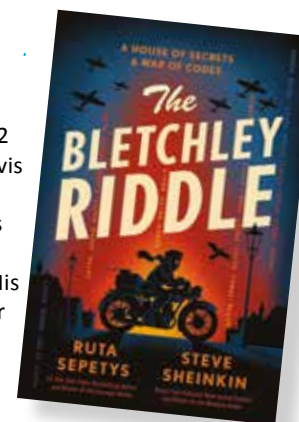
## CHILDREN'S BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Bathford Church School Waterfall Class  
Book Recommendations

### **THE BLETCHLEY RIDDLE** by Ruta Sepetys and Steve Sheinkin

The story is set in early World War 2 and is about two siblings, Jakob Novis and Lizzie Novis. Jacob is a maths genius and has a big secret – he has been recruited to the secret code breaking centre at Bletchley Park. His younger sister is on a mission of her own to find her mother, who they say has been killed by a bomb, but Lizzie thinks her mum is still alive!

**Recommended by Lydia.**



### **THE BUNNY VS MONKEY SERIES** by Jamie Smart and the **DINOSAUR COVE SERIES**

by Rex Stone

Brilliant graphic novels about hectic fun, and adventure books about travelling to a world of dinosaurs with two kids, Jamie and Tom.

**Recommended by John and Teddy.**



### **THE ICKABOG** by JK Rowling

There is a king, or should I say King Fred the Fearless! He is known for being strong, brave and most importantly fearless! The Kingdom of Cornucopia is worried. Can he save them, with the help of others? The Ickabog is coming!

**Recommended by Merryn.**



## VILLAGE DIRECTORY

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# ESTHER BENNETT TELLS US OF A VERY MEMORABLE EVENT!

Cliff Richard in Bathford!  
30 April 85

WOW, is it really 40 years since Cliff Richard surprised my daughters and I by turning up at our house to make a video?! Yes, it was 30 April 1985 when he came to Bathford in reply to a letter sent to a popular TV show by our daughter Gillian.

Gill had a toy typewriter for Christmas and had decided to write the letter, asking them to arrange for me to meet Cliff, but no one expected anything to happen. What resulted was a truly incredible day, that I remember as clearly as if it was yesterday.

Needless to say, my husband David became an expert in tale-telling as once contacted by the BBC, he had to concoct a believable scenario to set up the surprise, while keeping me totally in the dark! It involved a pretend story where he had potential employers coming to meet with him at our house that day, so we had to be neat and tidy, I had to dress to impress - and bake some rock cakes to tempt them with!

Lyndsey our eldest daughter was told the night before, as she had to pretend to go to school but then turn around and come back later. Gill went to school as usual but was collected by David, and the headmaster of Bathford Primary School Cyril Marshall, told what was happening.

The only other person to know was our neighbour Pauline, whose task it was to get me out of the house for a couple of hours that morning; she succeeded, and the rest is history!!

Pauline was very good at stalling me on our shopping trip to make sure I arrived at the exact time. Meanwhile, the production team had borrowed a red and white striped workmen's tent from British Telecom and set it up outside the house - and it was in there where Cliff and Gill were in hiding until I was safely inside the house on my return. Without going beyond the hallway, the doorbell had rung, and David asked me to answer it. You cannot believe my complete shock and amazement when in front of me was Cliff!

The house and garden had been set up to do the filming, with a live band with their instruments in the back garden and even a glitter ball in the hall for a disco scene! The day was carefully planned with the different scenes being filmed in sections and included lunch at the Crown with Cliff. Children from the school were also given time off to take part in the last scene of the video, dancing in the street with Cliff and myself. My rock cakes were quickly demolished, including by Cliff, who loved them; we renamed them Cliff cakes and still call them that to this day!

Cliff happily signed lots of autographs for friends of Gill and Lyndsey and signed the LP that we had of his, but a lasting treasure (apart from the tea towel that he used to dry up his cup!), is the recording of his song, 'Do You Wanna Dance' where he added 'Esther into the lyrics!

The day had obviously taken a long time to put together, with the production team having checked out our location and all that was possible. They gave me a copy of the typed full script for each scene. They all left around 19:15 but only after Cliff had asked for a cuppa and a moment to put his feet up.

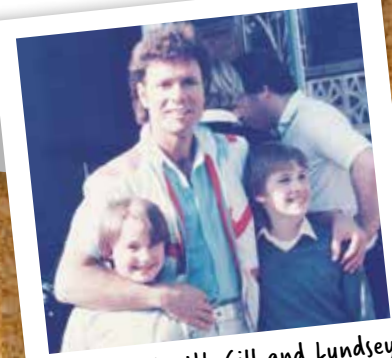
After the programme was broadcast, I was very surprised to receive quite a bit of fan mail, and the story was in the Bath Chronicle and the British Telecom Magazine.

What a memory to keep, especially as sadly Gill passed away in 2013. If you want to watch the video of the day, it's on YouTube. Search for: Jim'll Fix It Cliff Richard.

Were you there?



The Bathford crowd!



Cliff with Gill and Lyndsey



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## BATHFORD'S 'TOP GUN' ACHIEVES A RARE DOUBLE

It's been some 4 years, back in May 2021 since we last caught up with a 'son of Bathford', RAF Squadron Leader Tristan (Tris) Le Lohé, who was brought up in the village and educated in Bath. Back then, Tris was already a 'Top Gun' flying the Typhoon out of RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire.

He then transferred to the US as part of a **40-month exchange programme** with the **US Navy** in January 2022 to teach air combat techniques & tactics with the **US Electronic Attack Squadron 129 (VAQ-129)**. This involves training aircrew and sailors to conduct electronic warfare with the **EA-18G Growler**, one of the world's most advanced electronic attack jets, at **Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in Washington State**. This is a remarkable demonstration that, outside of recent politics, the 'special relationship' in the military is still very real.

It included the rare opportunity to fly from the aircraft carrier **USS Abraham Lincoln**. The EA-18G Growler provides tactical jamming and electronic protection and is the US Forces, arguably NATO's, first line of defence in hostile environments.

Tris becomes one of only a handful of RAF pilots to qualify as a naval aviator and earn his 'wings of gold' through the US Navy carrier qualification in around 60 years of transatlantic exchange programmes. The achievement puts him among an elite group of aviators with cross-platform expertise spanning land and sea operations and makes him one of the very few RAF pilots to experience catapult launches and arrested landings. Tris said:

"It was an incredible honour. Carrier flying is utterly unique; getting catapulted off the deck at 140 knots in under two seconds and landing on a postage stamp certainly focuses the mind. The co-ordinated teamwork required so many different departments to achieve safe and efficient flying operations and was a privilege to be part of".

Tristan (now with call sign 'Boaty'!) returns with his family in July to take up a new posting with 29 Squadron, RAF Coningsby.



Adapted from an article by David Swills-McCann, BFBS News. Photo credits: US Navy & Spencer Roberts US



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requirements

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alterations and renovations

Sue Hocking  
01225 865706  
07748 780985

Email:  
sue.hocking@talktalk.net

A twentieth-century sculpture of Julian of Norwich, holding a copy of her Revelations, Church of St. Julian at Norwich



## FROM ST SWITHUN'S by Curate Jane Hoe

As I write today our Anglican Church celebrates the medieval mystic, Julian of Norwich (1342-c.1416). Julian lived offering loving wisdom to a community facing plague and poverty. Despite the terrible times she lived through, her writings are filled with hope - hope that's rooted in the goodness of God.

You may well know her most famous quote:

'ALL SHALL BE WELL, AND ALL SHALL BE WELL AND ALL MANNER OF THING SHALL BE WELL.'

Julian's faith trusted that the pure goodness of God remains with us through all the challenges of our lives.

I see this goodness beautifully at work in the midst of us every day in Bathford.

So why come to church? Well, to be part of a community who recognises the source of this goodness - to give thanks and to pray that goodness continues within and through us.

And what more beautiful and joyful place to do this than in your own parish church - not a place to escape life, but to recognise God at work within life.

Like most parish churches, our worship is as varied as our people - so please do take a look at our list of services on the 'What's On' page and on our website [www.stswithunsbathford.co.uk](http://www.stswithunsbathford.co.uk)

### IN THE CHURCHYARD

The new plaques on Ann Nelson's grave, kindly provided by the Nelson Society, will be rededicated after the normal **Holy Communion service at 10:00 on Sunday 15 June**, at around **11:00**. All invited to either or both parts.

### MYSTERY MEALS - A GREAT SUCCESS!

58 guests were treated to a 3-course meal with wine by 10 different hosts and a staggering **£1,405** was raised for the charity **Mary's Meals**, which provides a hot meal to children in need in 18 countries. Huge thanks to all involved.

### CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 4 July, 19.30, Bathford Parish Hall.  
Tickets £12.50.

Join us for a fun evening at the **Parish Hall** with a tantalising **Quiz**, a delicious homemade **two course supper**, a **bar**, and a **Raffle** with great prizes. Book a table of 6 or come and join in with others.

Help us to raise funds for both the local **Peggy Dodd Centre** which works to help those living with dementia and memory loss and **Tearfund**. Tearfund is a Christian charity working in over 50 countries tackling poverty, responding to disasters and challenging injustice.

Entry by ticket only. Available from **Monday 9 June** from **Bathford Village Shop**, or Liz Townsend - **01225 59598** or [laurelliz106@gmail.com](mailto:laurelliz106@gmail.com).

Rev Lauretta | [revlauretta@outlook.com](mailto:revlauretta@outlook.com) Curate Jane Hoe | [jane.hoe@outlook.com](mailto:jane.hoe@outlook.com)  
Church Office | Zoe Hill **01225 920050** [administrator@stswithunsbathford.co.uk](mailto:administrator@stswithunsbathford.co.uk)

# BATHFORD FOLLYFEST 2025

## A summer celebration for the Bathford community

### Fun for all families and all ages

It's over 15 years since the community last got together for a summer celebration. Bathford Events Team is changing that and planning a day of merriment and fun on 5 July.

From 12 noon to 21:00, it will involve all the familiar ingredients of a traditional country fair. Children's activities: face-painting, clown and circus skills, a magic show and running races; a fun dog show (your pooch could be a winner!), tug of war, food and refreshments, art and craft/charity stalls, live music, a (silent) disco - and more!

#### Get involved!

- **Come along on the day.** Please buy your tickets online in advance at [bathfordevents.sumupstore.com](https://bathfordevents.sumupstore.com)
- **Volunteer.** There's lots to be done both in advance or on the day. Can you help in setting up, taking tickets, marshalling, security or clearing up? The Events Team will be delighted to hear from you!
- **Run an Activity or stall.** Here is the chance for Parish organisations to promote themselves, or to organise a fun activity, sell your crafts or promote your business. Email the Events Team for details.

All monies raised will go towards future community activities and events.

We look forward to sharing in the fun with you, for what we hope will become an annual event!

All this is feasible thanks to the generous support of our many sponsors and raffle prize donors, including: Auctioneum, BANES, Bannerdown Benching, Bathford Parish Council, Camella, Curo, Dyson, Homewood Hotel, Helen Pettemerides, Portals and Whiteley Helyar.

Thanks!

**SATURDAY 5 JULY | 12:00 - 21:00**

FOLLY FIELD RECREATION GROUND,  
ASHLEY ROAD BATHFORD BA1

Bathford Events Team: [events@bathford.net](mailto:events@bathford.net)

### ASK THE TRAINER

Your questions answered by Ali Creighton at Doodle Dogs Training



**Q:** My terrier loves to play tug but she gets really excited and growls and I'm worried that I'm encouraging her to be aggressive. Should I stop playing tug with her?

**A:** Good question, especially as the answer can seem counter-intuitive. Trainers (me included!) often recommend that you don't let your dog practice unwanted behaviours because you risk them becoming unwanted habits. This situation is different because your terrier already has an inborn desire to grab and shake prey - leading to their enjoyment of tugging games. All dogs have some extent of 'prey drive' which is why greyhounds chase, retrievers retrieve and terriers tug. The deeply embedded nature of their 'Predatory Motor Pattern' means your dog is going to express those needs, one way or another. If you didn't provide your terrier with the opportunity to play tug, they would find another outlet e.g the curtains or, heaven forbid, next door's guinea-pigs! Don't worry, predation is not aggression and you are not encouraging it - quite the opposite: you are facilitating your dog's welfare needs by providing them with an 'authorised' outlet for this behaviour which is much better than letting them go 'self-employed'. It's also fine for your dog to win some of the tug games. It will not make them 'dominant' which is a misguided and outdated idea.

Good quality play consists of sometimes winning, sometimes losing, just like life. Try tugging then letting the toy go still (dead) then tug again - your terrier will love it ... so will love you!



Image by Freepik



SOUTH WEST ENGLAND  
PRESTIGE AWARDS  
2024/25 WINNER

Alison Creighton  
[www.doodledogs.uk](http://www.doodledogs.uk)

Dog Training Company of  
the Year Winner



A CELEBRATION OF NATURE • COMMUNITY  
31<sup>st</sup> MAY - 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
2025

'Wild Waters' has been developed by bringing together a group of local councils and nature groups, representing communities along the River Avon and its tributaries, between Bradford on Avon and Batheaston.

The festival provides an opportunity to celebrate nature and our local communities, but also to recognise our concern about the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss that can be seen in and along the river.

Wild Waters Festival aims to harness the potential for individuals to come together with their communities to take positive action for our river.

Over the two weeks there is an abundance of activities and online material including:

- Music concerts
- Presentations
- Art Exhibitions
- Talks
- Photo workshops
- Guided walks
- Screenings
- Pub Quiz
- Rewilding
- Wellness
- Church services
- Riverside party

For full details of the Wild Water Festival programme go to:  
[www.wildwatersfestival.com](http://www.wildwatersfestival.com)

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## ...Baking a Cake

by Judy Marris

An hour spent in the kitchen performing magic is never an hour wasted. You take a series of unrelated and seemingly incompatible food stuffs, you mix them together in precise amounts, pop them into a tin and into an oven and 'voila' a cake emerges 30 or 40 minutes later!

Along with the baking come all kinds of memories. Sometimes I use spoons or pans that came from my family home. Sometimes I use ingredients whose smell and taste bring me up short as I remember a holiday where I first tasted it or in a dish someone had prepared for me. The recipe might have been given to me by a family member or a friend long since deceased. Or from a mislaid friend which prompts me to get in touch.

And at the end there is the cake to be primped and beautified before being served and enjoyed. The smell of fresh baking seeps through the house bringing joy to all who share it.

**This recipe is easy and impressive:**



Unfun Run winners!

## VERY FUN UNFUN RUN

The Bathford Unfun Run returned on 10 May, with a record number of participants completing the one mile route from the Crown to the Folly.

Three Bathford school runners dominated the prizes - **Oli Tasker** was for the 2nd year in a row **fastest U18 male**, with **James Goodhand 2nd**, and **Ella O'Mahony** was **2nd fastest U18 female**. Lansdown's **Lois Haines** successfully defended her **female U18** title.

**Storm Hayward** was **fastest female**, with a lightning time of 9 mins 3s, and **Tom Davis** was **fastest male**, finishing the 180m climb in a gravity-defying 8 mins 11s, just 7 seconds off the event record.

Over **£1,500 was raised for FOBS**. A big thanks to everyone who participated, supported, or volunteered, and to **The Crown** for generously sponsoring the event.

*Tom, Kev, Marc and Martin*

## MARY BERRY'S CHOCOLATE CELEBRATION CAKE

- 185g SR flour
- 2tblsp cocoa sieved
- 1 tsp bicarb of soda
- 2tblsp golden syrup
- 140g castor sugar
- 140ml milk
- 2 eggs
- 140ml vegetable oil (*I use groundnut, but sunflower should do equally well*)

### METHOD

Heat oven to 160C. Grease and line two x 8" sandwich tins.

Blend all the ingredients until smooth. It is a very wet mix. Pour into tins and bake for 35-40 mins. Should be springy and starting to come away from the sides of the tin.

Allow to cool. Fill with raspberries and cream - or some cherry jam with cream and cherries for a retro BlackForest gateau.



# LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES



@Bath

# LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES 2025

## Leadership as a Force for Good



Wednesday 2 July 2025



The Forum, Bath, BA1 1UG



Scan for tickets/info



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# BATHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Parish Meeting - Review

**Around 40 residents gathered at Bathford School to review the last twelve months of Parish Community life and to listen to guest speakers from:**

**BANES: Councillor Kevin Guy** discussed the Local Plan and the impact on Bathford. Several sites in the parish have been identified to fulfil the requirement for 40 dwellings in the parish by 2040; Councillor Guy also pointed out the potential development of the Bathford Nurseries site for BANES dwellings which would include affordable properties.

**Parish Council: Steve Wyatt** reported on the first responses to the Community Vision survey and the recognition of collective themes which could be developed by those making the proposals.

**Village Shop: Sue Moore** reported on the current status of the BEFA Community Co-operative now approaching its 20th anniversary, as it faces challenges to sales, volunteers and long-term security as to its property/location.



### VILLAGE GATES

Village gates have been identified as efficient measures to slow traffic speeds when approaching them, by identifying that drivers are approaching a residential or busy area. Gates have recently been installed on the three major routes through the parish on the A4 Box Road, A363 Bradford Road and on Kingsdown Road. We are awaiting the installation of the signage in due course. Financing was provided by the Avon & Somerset Police Road Safety Fund.

**Share & Repair: Martin Hobbs** reported on the excellent initial response to the introduction of a Repair Shop Café for Bathford. The next meeting is the first trial run on 14 June in the Parish Hall.

**Bathford Events Team: Heather Carter and Vicky Drew** presented the history of the Team's successful projects and introduced 'FollyFest'.

The presentations generated much discussion and questions from the audience.

Recognition was given to the long service of **Hugh Baker** who recently resigned and in memory of **Clr John Lloyd** who passed away this year. Clr Carr appealed for applicants to fill the vacancies created.

The meeting concluded with Clr Carr announcing the introduction of two new road safety schemes:

**a)** on the A363 Bradford Road, and **b)** on the High Street and Bathford Hill. Both schemes are scheduled to be initiated and hopefully completed within the next 12 months. The Council is determined to continue to improve road safety throughout the parish, notably on the A4 Box Road.

### OBITUARY NOTICES

**Bob Palmer, formally of Dovers Park** Died peacefully on Tuesday 25 March 2025 aged 85, at Larkhall Springs Nursing Home, Bath. 'A Wonderful Husband, Father and Grandfather'.

**Maureen Evans, formally of the High Street**

Peacefully passed away on 28 March 2025 aged 86, at Woodside Nursing Home, Bathwick Hill, Bath. 'Much loved, wife, mother, grandmother, friend and sister'.

### WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

- Wild Water Festival  
31 May - 15 June  
Various locations
- Service of Holy Communion  
Sun 1 June | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bathford Quilt Group  
Tue 3 June | 10:00 to 13:00  
Community Room  
Mountain Wood
- Cricket:  
Bathford 2nd XI vs Beehive Southwick 2  
Sat 7 June | 13:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Live Music: Sophie Silva  
Sat 7 June | 20:30  
Village Club
- Contemporary Service  
Sun 8 June | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Come & See!  
Children's Afternoon Service  
Sun 8 June | 16:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Mobile Library Service  
Wed 11 June | 13:00 - 13:45  
Dover's Park by School
- Bingo  
Fri 13 June | 19:30  
Village Club
- Repair Shop Cafe  
Sat 14 June | TTBA  
Bathford Parish Hall
- Cricket:  
Bathford 1st XI vs Goatacre 3  
Sat 14 June | 13:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Service of Holy Communion  
Sun 15 June | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Ann Nelson's Grave Re-dedication  
Sun 15 June | 11:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Bathford Parish Council Meeting  
Mon 16 June | 19:00  
Mountain Wood Community Rooms
- Monthly Community Coffee Morning  
Thu 19 June | 10:30 - 12:00  
Shockerwick House
- Cricket:  
Bathford 2nd XI vs Bishop Cannings  
Sat 21 June | 13:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Live Music: Marc Hammond  
Sat 21 June | 20:30  
Village Club
- Welcome Church  
Sun 22 June | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Evening Prayer  
Sun 22 June | 16:30 (with refreshments from 16:00)  
St Swithun's Church
- Film Club: Diana  
Mon 23 June | 14:00  
St Swithun's Church
- Mobile Library Service  
Wed 25 June | 13:00 - 13:45  
Dover's Park by School
- Jazz Night  
Fri 27 June | 20:00  
Village Club
- Cricket:  
Bathford 1st XI vs Keevil  
Sat 28 June | 13:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Joint Service of Holy Communion  
Sun 29 June | 10:00  
St Swithun's Church

### FOR YOUR DIARY

- St Swithun's Charity Quiz Night  
Fri 4 July | 19:30  
Bathford Parish Hall
- Bathford Follyfest  
Sat 5 July | 12:00 - 21:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Cricket:  
Bathford 1st XI vs Lacock  
Sat 5 July | 13:00  
Folly Field Recreation Ground,  
Ashley Road
- Shockerwick House Summer Fete  
Sat 16 Aug  
Shockerwick House
- Bathford Flower Show  
Sat 6 Sep  
Bathford School

**You can now publish your event on the Parish Council website calendar.**

Email [clerk@bathford.net](mailto:clerk@bathford.net) with the following information:

Event name/date/start time/finish time/venue

To see the calendar visit:  
[www.bathford.net/local-information/events](http://www.bathford.net/local-information/events)

### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday 16 June, 19:00 | Mountain Wood Community Rooms**

The public are invited to attend and raise any issues within the first ten minutes.

Contact: [clerk@bathford.net](mailto:clerk@bathford.net) | Tel. 01225 858220

**You are all warmly invited. Refreshments will be served.**

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