Aspotogan Recreation Association

Community Newsletter

Vol. 53 Issue 11 November 2026

Aspotogan ~ Bayswater ~ Blandford ~ Deep Cove ~ Northwest Cove

ARA UPDATE NOVEMBER 2026

PLEASE SEE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL READERS ON PAGE 2 ABOUT UPCOMING CHANGES TO THIS NEWSLETTER AND ITS DISTRIBUTION

Annual ARA Fall Bottle Drive: Saturday, November 14 starting at 9:30 am
Please leave your refundable bottle donations outside near your house (not near the road) as we will not be coming to your door. If we miss your donations along the way, please contact us for a pickup. Thanks to all who continue to generously support the bottle drives, and who take refundables to our bin between drives.

Holiday Garland Workshop: Wednesday, November 25 at 6:00 pm in the Community Centre Multipurpose Room. Create a festive wooden garland – five designs to choose from; no experience required; all supplies provided. Presented by Memory Lane Woodworks, sponsored by ARA. Pre-register by Nov. 22 at https://forms.gle/LT8JqVhw8ajSubPD6 Cost is $45.00

Games Night: Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm in the Community Centre Multipurpose Room. 2.00/person. Any game that can be played on a table. Bring your own game or join in with friends and neighbours! You may also bring snacks and drinks (alcohol excluded).

Chair Yoga: Fridays, 10:00-11:00 am in the Community Centre . Drop-in fee is $7.00/class – please bring exact change if possible. All are welcome to this fun and 'user-friendly' class. No previous experience is necessary. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat if you have one.

Drop-in Pickleball:
Thursdays 6:00-7:30 pm in the Community Centre gym. $3.00/player. Beginner and experienced players are welcome, age 13+. Cancellations will be posted on the community centre Facebook page by 3:00 pm on Thursdays. (https://www.facebook.com/blandfordcommunitycentre) All equipment is provided, please wear non-marking sneakers. Questions? Email: Pickleball@BellAliant.com.

WATCH BLANDFORD AND COMMUNITY CENTRE FACEBOOK PAGES FOR UPDATES AND CHANGES TO ACTIVITIES. If any community members have ideas for programs, please contact a member of the Executive – we welcome your ideas and feedback!

ARA executive: Carly LeBlanc 902-277-1269; Mary Norwood 902-228-2453, Vicki Schnare 902-228-2234 (vicki.schnare@bellaliant.net), Nancy Webb 902-225-2915 (n.webb@dal.ca), Wendy Clark 902-877-4871 (wendyl.clark@gmail.com), and Emily Woodworth .(emilylwoodworth@live.com)

NOTICE TO ALL NEWSLETTER READERS: Important changes are coming to the ARA Community Newsletter.

Due to the increasing costs of printing and postage, we have made the difficult decision to stop the bulk mail-out of the newsletter starting in February 2027. This means that you will no longer receive a paper copy of the newsletter in your mailbox after the Dec-Jan edition is distributed at the beginning of December. We will continue to produce the newsletter, as usual, and readers can obtain the newsletter in the following ways:

1) For Facebook users, the newsletter will continue to be posted to the Blandford and Area Community Page at:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/BlandfordAreaCommunityPageNS/files/files

2) You can view, download, or print a PDF copy of the newsletter at:
https://sites.google.com/view/aranewsletter/home

3) If you would like to receive a PDF copy of the newsletter by email, please send your email address to the editor at: Aspotogan329@gmail.com

4) If you do not have access to the Internet or email, we will continue to make a limited number of paper copies available at several locations on the Aspotogan Peninsula, including: The Deck (Blandford), Blandford Community Centre, Ocean Swells Community Centre and through the Blandford Parish. Additionally, some copies will be placed in the Bayswater Beach Little Free Library Box at the corner of Hennigar Lane and Hwy 329.

We will continue to offer subscriptions to the printed newsletter for $36 per year, which just covers the cost of postage, envelopes, labels etc.

COMMUNITY NEWS

DISTRICT # 1 COMMUNITY CENTRE

DISTRICT #1 BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

DISTRICT 1
BLANDFORD
COMMUNITY CENTRE

The 36th Annual Blandford Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair is scheduled for Sunday, November 8th, 10 am to 3 pm.
Canteen will be open for lunch – soups, sandwiches, etc! $3 admission





Fundraiser Breakfast - Saturday, November 21st, 9 – 11 am. Eat in or Take Out. Includes eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, beans, hashbrowns, coffee, tea & juice. $12 each, $5 kids 10 & under, FREE kids under 3. Cash or debit available. 50/50 at the door!

Next Board of Directors Meeting is Wednesday, November 4th at 7 pm. All meetings are open to the public!

Board of Directors for 2026/2027 -

Kelly Fitzgerald, Chair	902-222-1046	kahfitzgerald@gmail.com
Wendy Clark, Vice Chair	902-877-4871	wendyl.clark@gmail.com
Karen Overholt, Secretary	519-567-1591	francis_karen@hotmail.com

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER TREASURER WITH EXPERIENCE!

Board Members (2026/2027)
Samantha Murphy, Odessa Bezanson, Joanne Walton, Eric Miller, Mary Norwood, Tami Clarke, Edward Burdon

District 1 Blandford Community Centre - 30 Firehall Rd, Blandford, NS B0J 1T0

COMMUNITY NOTICES

THE FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR THE DISTRICT OF BLANDFORD

Regular Monthly Meeting

November 9, 2026 – 7pm

Blandford Community Centre in the Lodge

All Ratepayers are welcome to view meetings

Watch our Facebook page for any updates or changes at "BLANDFORD & AREA FIRE RESCUE"

BLANDFORD & AREA FIRE RESCUE

PROPERTY ACCESS

As you are doing your fall property clean up please keep in mind when cutting back brush and grown in driveways and/or roadways on how large our fire apparatus are. Our trucks are nine feet wide and some 10 feet tall, we always recommend a 12 x 12 feet opening is ideal. If we can't get in to your property it delays us in the amount of time and ability to get to you in an emergency. Be sure you have your civic sign by the road in good visibility for us to see.

If you have questions or concerns about your entrance to your property you can always reach out to us for some advice.



www.firefighters5050.com/192
In support of Blandford & Area Fire Rescue

For any questions please contact Shelley Hartley
Email: blandfordcommission@bellaliant.com

www.blandfordfire.ca

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ATHENÆUM SOCIETY
OF NOVA SCOTIA
www.athenaeumns.org

The Search for the Northwest Passage

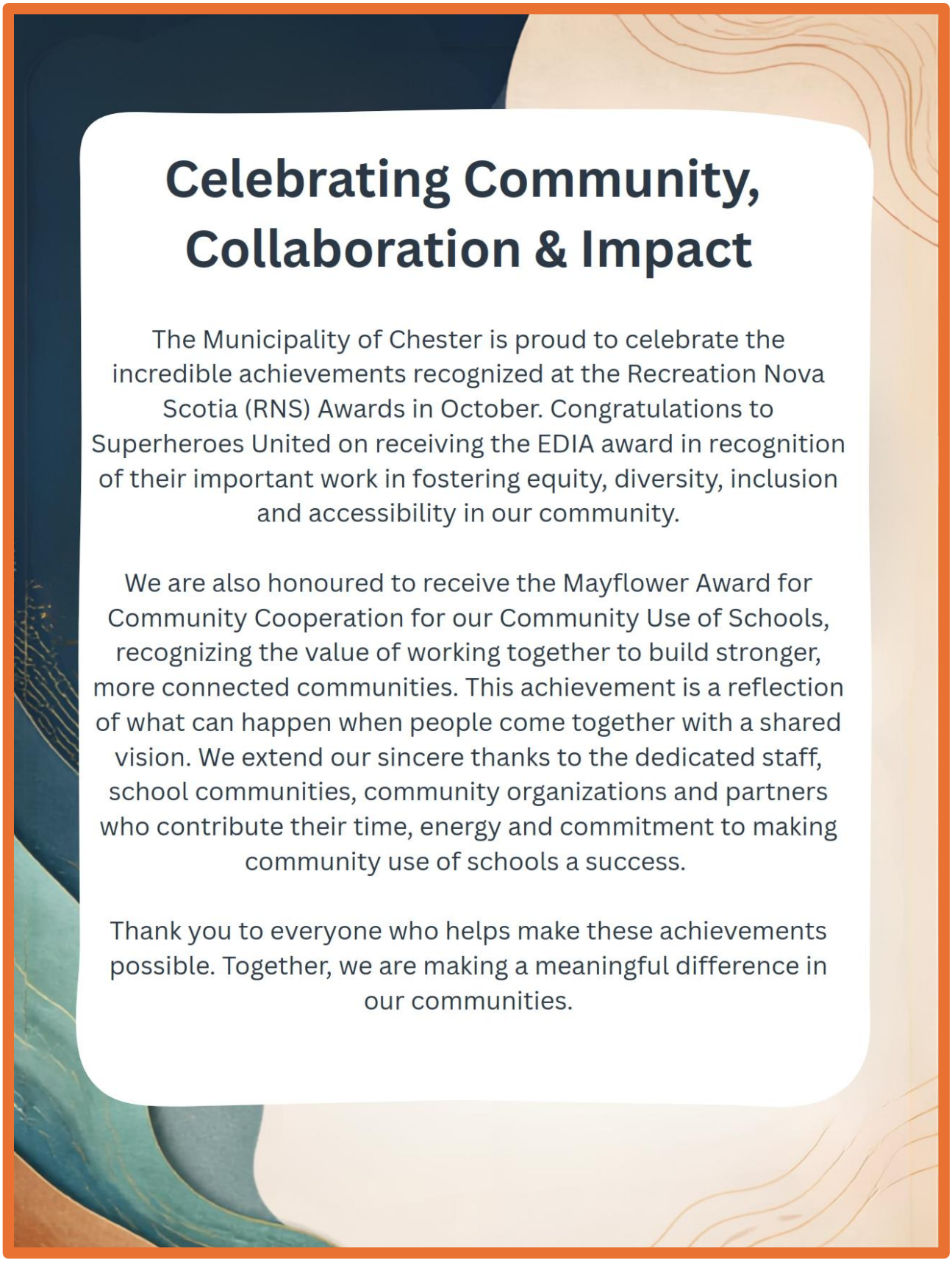
Presented by
Syd Dumaresq

Syd Dumaresq, a prominent local architect and amateur historian, has recently cruised Canada's fabled Northwest Passage. In his presentation, he will relate its history, the numerous explorers who sought it over three centuries, and their relations with the Inuit. In doing so, he will provide his personal experience and impressions of the modern-day cruise ship passage.

Sunday, November 15, at 2:30pm
Ocean Swells Community Centre
Northwest Cove, 2726 Hwy 329 (Hwy 103 Exit 6)

All are welcome. Q & A. following.
For more information, go to www.athenaeumns.org

COMMUNITY NEWS



COMMUNITY NEWS, continued...

RNS Awards 2026



Superheroes United Program

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Access (EDIA) Award

Superheroes United was established in 2017 to create an inclusive and supportive community for families of children with differing needs across the South Shore. Founded as a partnership between Through the Years Early Learning Centre and The Municipality of Chester Recreation & Parks Department with the support of SchoolsPlus and Autism Nova Scotia, the program was developed under the volunteer leadership of Paulette Harnish Benight and Rhonda Buffet in response to a gap in accessible family programming and peer support opportunities. A key strength of Superheroes United is its whole-family approach. While children build friendships, confidence, and social skills, parents and caregivers gain access to information, support networks, and shared experiences with others facing similar challenges. This combination of recreation, advocacy, and peer support helps strengthen both individual families and the broader community.

COMMUNITY NEWS, continued...

RNS Awards 2026



Municipality of the District of Chester: Community Use of Schools

Mayflower Community Cooperation Award

Since 1990, the Municipality of the District of Chester (Chester) has progressively established formal joint-use of school (JUA) agreements with all five schools in their municipal unit. Starting with a community use agreement with the South Shore Regional Centre for Education (SSRCE, formerly the SSRSB) for the new build of Forest Heights school in 1990, Chester led the way in building a collaborative 'can-do' model for community use of schools that benefits their residents and the sector continues to learn from in 2026. Essential to this work is a strong working relationship with the SSRCE and their willingness to partner, problem solve and keep lines of communication open.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

36th ANNUAL BLANDFORD HOLIDAY ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 2026

10 am to 3 pm

District 1 Blandford Community Centre - 30 Firehall Rd (off Hwy 329) Blandford

Admission - $3, children under 12 FREE

Canteen open and lunch plate available for purchase



A BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDRAISER

VENDORS EMAIL – blandfordns@gmail.com for info and application

DISTRICT 1 BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 28th

11:00 to 1:30 p.m.

at the

Blandford Community Centre







Bake Table, Handwork, Raffle Basket, Books, New to You
Christmas Table & Guess the Weight of the Cake Contest

No Admission for Bazaar

Lunch: A Bowl of Soup with a Roll,
Dessert and Tea & Coffee for $13.00
(a variety of soups and desserts)

Blandford Community Centre, 30 Firehall Rd, Blandford

******Sponsored by the Parish of Blandford Guild******

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cookie Exchange



Would you like to have a variety of cookies without having to bake them all? If so, then join us on December 5th (exchange spot is TBD) for a cookie exchange.

Here's how it will work:

1. You let me (JoAnne) know you're interested in joining in the fun (email: ragrugs@hotmail.com or text/call me at 647-785-5394).
2. Bake however many cookies you'd like to exchange - you will go home with the amount you bring whether that's 1 dozen or 7.5 dozen or any other amount.



On the day of:

1. Show up on Dec 5th at the time and place specified. I will have a number of platters and plates and we will display all of the cookies around the table.
2. You will then go around the table (think buffet) and pick out the cookies you'd like to have. If you bring 6 dozen cookies, you can go home with 6 dozen cookies.
3. If you bring more cookies than you want to take home, extras will be made into small gift plates that will be dropped off at the homes of seniors in our community (please PM or text me the names/ addresses of anyone who you think would like to have a small gift plate to enjoy).



Updates will be made on Facebook and in the December newsletter.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

OHC SAME DAY CLINIC SERVICES CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER 2026

Phone Lines for the Same Day Clinic Open **8:00am** Each Clinic Day

Call (902) 273-2098 For A Same Day Appointment (We **DO NOT** offer walk-in service; you must have an appt.)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 4:30 to 7:00 PM – Menopause/Forms Clinic	4 9:00 to 1:30 pm – Same Day Clinic 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	5 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	6 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	7
10 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	11 *Closed for Remembrance Day*	12 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	13 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	14 9:00 to 1:30 pm – Same Day Clinic 09:00 to 3:00 PM– Menopause/Forms Clinic
17 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 4:30 to 7:00 PM – Menopause/Forms Clinic	18 9:00 to 1:30 pm – Same Day Clinic	19 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	20 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	21
24 9:00 to 5:00 pm – Same Day Clinic 4:30 to 7:00 PM – Menopause/Forms Clinic	25 9:00 am to 5 pm – Dr. Morissette (Referral)	26 9:30 to 2:00 pm – Same Day Clinic	27	28

RED – Same Day Clinic | BLUE – Dr. Morissette (Psychiatry)

BLACK – Dr. O'Neil (Menopause, Metabolic Health & Forms Clinic)

Referral means you must have a referral from your Family GP/NP; Same Day Clinic is done same day only starting at 8am.

Update from Seasiders – October 2026 meeting

A Lovely Visit with East Chester Seniors

Although a few members had to cancel at the last minute due to ill health, we still enjoyed a very good turnout as we welcomed our neighbours from the East Chester Seniors Club for an evening of friendship and fun.

There was plenty to tempt our taste buds, with a delicious selection of savouries, deserts, and a lovely birthday cake to celebrate those marking birthdays this month. There certainly was no shortage of treats!

The afternoon continued with a raffle, won by one of our East Chester guests, followed by a fifty-fifty draw. To round things off, everyone enjoyed several lively games of bingo.

It was a pleasure to share the afternoon with our neighbouring seniors, enjoying good company, tasty treats and a little friendly competition. We look forward to more opportunities to get together!

Next meeting is November 20th at 7PM. Hope to see you there.

COMMUNITY NOTICES





Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, Nov 1st at 2 a.m.

BUSINESS SERVICES

Wooden Crafts for Sale

Wide variety of hand-made wooden crafts available at reasonable prices, including: stools, buoys, birdhouses and feeders, Christmas crafts and more!

22 Publicover Road, Blandford

Terry Zinck (902) 228-2333



BUSINESS SERVICES





BUSINESS SERVICES



BUSINESS SERVICES

Thank you for your support of the Aspotogan Ridge Golf Club

ASPOTOGAN RIDGE
ASPOTOGAN HERITAGE TRUST



As we close out the 2026 season, there are still a few days left to come enjoy some golf with friends.

Official closing date is

Sunday, November 1

Call for more details

902-857-1333

376 Parkwood Drive, Mill Cove

(1 km beyond Aspotogan Consolidated Elementary School)

www.aspotoganridge.com @playaspotogan

ASPOTOGAN HERITAGE TRUST



10 Pte. Richard Green Lane, Hubbards

902-857-1133 info@aspotogan.org

Aspotogan Heritage Trust

Office hours

Monday to Friday 9–4

Drop by the office for business and personal needs such as

- photocopying, laminating, printing and faxing services
- computer and technology help
- grant writing assistance

Do you need to rent office space in the area or looking for a confidential place to meet clients?

There is space available at the office that may fit your needs. Call for more information

BUSINESS SERVICES

The Deck - Blandford
Specials for November 2026

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Fish Cakes & Baked Beans	**4** Quiche & Caesar Salad	**5** Shepherd's Pie	**6** Chicken Wraps & Fries
10 Spaghetti Dinner	**11** Pork Schnitzel	**12** Chicken Quesadilla & Fries	**13** Corned Beef & Cabbage
17 Chicken Cordon Bleu	**18** Meat Loaf & Mashed Potatoes	**19** Captain's Pie	**20** Beef Pot Pie
24 Hot Turkey Sandwiches & Fries	**25** Sweet & Sour Meatballs on Rice	**26** Ham & Scalloped Potatoes	**27** Cabbage Rolls
30 Stuffed Baked Haddock Dinner	**All Specials are $18.99** **Hours: Mon-Thur, Sat-Sun 7 am – 7 pm** **Fri 7 am – 9pm**		

Don't forget to book your Christmas parties, or if you need trays of goodies for your home parties, call (902) 228-2570.

BUSINESS SERVICEBUSINESS SERVICES

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PARISH SCHEDULE/NOTICES

Parish of Blandford
Anglican Churches of the Aspotogan Peninsula

Ministry@ParishofBlandford.ca
https://parishofblandford.ca

St. Cuthbert's: 2734 Hwy 329, Northwest Cove
All Saints: 4122 Hwy 329, Bayswater

November 2026 Worship Schedule

(latest updates: https://parishofblandford.ca/service-schedule/)

November 1	Morning Prayer	10:00 am	All Saints, Bayswater
November 8	Eucharist	10:00 am	St. Cuthberts, Northwest Cove
November 15	Eucharist	10:00 am	All Saints, Bayswater
November 20	Morning Prayer	10:00 am	St. Cuthberts, Northwest Cove
November 29	Eucharist	10:00 am	All Saints

It is a great relief to have our calendar filled until the end of December! For the month of November, Rev. Robin will be leading this year's first advent service, on November 29. On November 8 we will have the Rev. David Fletcher for our Eucharist Service, and on November 15 we will have the Rev. Rick Price for our second Eucharist Service. Our Lay reader, Robert MacMillan will be leading Morning Prayer. Our October Thanksgiving service was very nice. Our thanks go out to Rev. Robin for taking us on.



On November 28th the Parish of Blandford will be holding their Annual Bazaar Luncheon. If you have items you'd like to donate for the sale, we'd appreciate it. We are looking for gently used items, craft supplies, preserves and Christmas items.

Donations can be dropped off at St. Barnabas Church on November 21 from 1-3 so they can be sorted and priced before the event.

Also, if you have a few hours a year to volunteer and have Bookkeeping experience, we'd love to talk to you. Cheryl Lynn Schnare 902-277-0421 or cschnare71@gmail.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR - NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10 am All Saints	**2** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Games Night BCC 7pm	**3** Fire Trg 7 pm	**4** Indoor walking BCC 10 am BCC Board Mtg 7pm 45's cards OS 7 pm	**5** Pickleball BCC 6 pm	**6** Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	**7**
8 10 am St. Cuthberts Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale BCC 10 am	**9** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Games Night BCC 7pm Fire Mtg BCC 7pm	**10** Fire Trg 7 pm	**11** 45's cards OS 7 pm Remembrance Day	**12** Pickleball BCC 6 pm	**13** Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	**14** ARA Bottle Drive 9:30 am
15 10 am All Saints Athenaeum 2:30 pm OS	**16** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Games Night BCC 7pm	**17** Fire Trg 7 pm	**18** Indoor walking BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	**19** Pickleball BCC 6 pm DEC/26-JAN/27 Newsletter Deadline	**20** Chair Yoga BCC 10 am Seasiders BCC 7 pm 45's cards OS 7 pm	**21** Breakfast BCC 9am
22 10 am St. Cuthberts	**23** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Games Night BCC 7pm	**24** Fire Trg 7 pm	**25** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Garland Workshop BCC 6 pm 45's cards OS 7 pm	**26** Pickleball BCC 6 pm	**27** Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's cards OS 7 pm	**28** Xmas Bazaar BCC 11 am
29 10 am All Saints	**30** Indoor walking BCC 10 am Games Night BCC 7pm	**31** Fire Trg 7 pm			OS = Ocean Swells Community Centre	BCC = Blandford Community Centre

Newsletter Advertisement Rates

Personal Ads and Thank you Notices

1/4 Page	$ 8.00
1/2 Page	$12.00
Full Page	$23.00

Business Ads and Community Groups

Business Cards	$ 8.00
1/4 Page	$12.00
1/2 Page	$18.00
Full Page	$35.00

SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE
CONTACT EDITOR FOR MORE INFO
$36.00 per year

Editor Information

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR DEC-JAN NEWSLETTER:

NOVEMBER 20, 2026