



Aspotogan Recreation Association

Community Newsletter

Vol. 52 Issue 6 June 2025

Aspotogan ~ Bayswater ~ Blandford ~ Deep Cove ~ Northwest Cove

ARA UPDATE JUNE 2025

Thank you to our community members for your generous donations to our Spring Bottle Drive! Note: The doors to our donation bin are locked due to thefts – you can drop donations in the drop area at the top of the box; or if you are able, hold donations until our Fall Bottle Drive.

ARA Annual General Meeting: Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00 pm in the Youth Room, upstairs at the Community Centre. Please consider joining us; as a member of the group, or even if you just want to see what's happening and have any ideas for us!

Hiring: The ARA is looking for someone with carpentry skills to do some repairs/refit of our refundable donation bin, and to the red storage building. Please contact a member of the Executive (contact information below) if you can help.

Chair Yoga: Fridays, 10:00-11:00 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.

Pickleball: Thursdays 6-7:30 in the Community Centre. Beginner and experienced players are welcome, age 13+. Email Pickleball@BellAliant.com if you have questions or plan to play. If pickleball must be cancelled, players will be notified by email and a notice will be posted on the Community Centre Facebook page. Watch the community center Facebook page on Thursday afternoon to see if we are playing. \$3.00 drop in. All equipment is provided, please wear non-marking sneakers.

Newsletter Advertising: *We appreciate all advertisers to our community newsletter. Your ads keep the newsletter going! Note that invoices are sent regularly. If you have not discussed your outstanding invoice with the Treasurer, you will receive notification that your ads cannot continue to be placed. Please remember to send your payment! Thank you!*

PLEASE 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), Emily Woodworth (emilylwoodworth@live.com)

COMMUNITY NEWS**DISTRICT # 1 COMMUNITY CENTRE****BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE****50/50 RAFFLEBOX**

50/50 Rafflebox Tickets – All proceeds go towards the Roof Replacement Fund!

Next Draw June 4th at 7 pm.

Watch our Facebook page for more information and the link to purchase tickets monthly. Use the QR code for link to 50/50 Draw.



UPDATES COMING ON THE ROOF! STAY POSTED TO NEXT MONTHS NEWSLETTER AND TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS!

UPCOMING EVENTS at the Community Centre

FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST – Saturday, June 21st, 9 – 11 am. Eat in or Take Out. Includes eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, beans, hashbrowns, coffee, tea & juice. \$10 each, \$5 kids 10 & under, FREE kids under 3. Cash or debit available.

LAST BREAKFAST BEFORE OCTOBER!



SAVE THE DATE!! –

Blandford Community Centre 40th Anniversary Celebration!

Saturday, July 26th.....MORE DETAILS TO COME IN NEXT MONTHS NEWSLETTER!!

The Community Centre has a new Community Bulletin Board COMING! Keep an eye out around our parking lot this month!



NEXT BOARD MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH AT 7 PM. ALL ARE WELCOME

Board of Directors for 2025/2026 -

Kelly Fitzgerald, Chair 902-222-1046
Odessa Bezanson, Vice Chair 902-277-1969
Wendy Chase, Treasurer 902-980-0012
Karen Overholt, Secretary 519-567-1591

kahfitzgerald@gmail.com
obezanson@hotmail.com
wendychase.ns@gmail.com
francis_karen@hotmail.com

Board Members (2025/2026)

Samantha Murphy, Joanne Walton, Eric Miller, Mary Norwood, Julie Day, Amanda Mordeen and Wendy Clark

COMMUNITY NEWS (continued)...

NOTICE OF MEETING

THE FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR DISTRICT#1 BLANDFORD

ANNUAL RATEPAYERS MEETING 2025

June 2, 2025 at 7:30PM

BLANDFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

In the Lodge Room (side entrance will be open)

Every year 2 Commission positions are open for nominations, a Commissioner must be a ratepayer of Fire District #1 Blandford. A "ratepayer" is someone who resides in our fire district and pays property taxes with their name on the tax bill to the Municipality of Chester. The Fire Commission is the governing body for the Blandford & Area Fire Rescue, they over see the monies collected from taxes for fire service and policies. If you would like more information, please reach each out to any Commissioner or Wendy Chase (contact below). All Ratepayer are encouraged to attend.

Agenda for Ratepayers Meeting 2025

Introductions & Adoption of the Agenda

1. Minutes

- Approval of the June 2024 Ratepayers Meeting Minutes
- Business arising from the minutes

2. Finances

- 2024/2025 Financial Report
- 2025/2026 Proposed Budget
- 2025/2026 Area Fire Tax Rate

3. Reports

- Annual Operations Report - Blandford and Area Fire Rescue Chief
- Annual Commission Report – Commission Chair
- Discussion from the floor/ratepayers

4. Election of Commissioners

- Nominating and Election of 2 Commissioners
- Recognition of outgoing Commissioners (if any)

5. Adjournment

Copy of the Draft Minutes from the 2024 Ratepayers meeting are available by contacting Wendy Chase at 902-980-0012 or via email blandfordcommission@bellaliant.com

30-A Firehall Rd, Hubbards, NS B0J 1T0 (p)902-980-0012

Email blandfordcommission@bellaliant.com

www.blandfordfire.ca

COMMUNITY EVENTS



ATHENÆUM SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA

www.athenaeumns.org

Governing Ourselves – Canada's Parliament

Presented by

Geoff Regan

Canada is a constitutional monarchy with a common federal government which passes laws that affect all Canadians. At the centre is the Parliament comprised of the Monarch, represented by the Governor General, the House of Commons and the Senate. Does it still work effectively? Do changes need to be made?

The Honourable Geoff Regan, former Member of Parliament for 24 years and Speaker of the House of Commons for four years, will present his appreciation of the institution of Parliament and how it works for Canadians.

Sunday, June 8, at 2:30pm

**Ocean Swells Community Centre, Northwest Cove, 2726
Hwy 329 (Hwy 103 Exit 6)**

All are welcome. Q & A following. For more info, call: (902) 476-4465

COMMUNITY EVENTS...(continued)

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Cordially invite you to the 19th Annual

Open House

***for the Composting Facility's
Maibec CanExel East River***

Community Environmental Liaison Committee

Saturday, June 7th, 2025, from 9 AM to 12:00 PM (noon)

Rain or Shine

***Union Hall – 7216 Highway 329, East River, NS
(3.3 kms. from Hwy 3 intersection)***

***Please join the Composting Facility's
Community Environmental Liaison Committee
for this open house and information day.***

A non-perishable donation for the Food Bank would be appreciated.

The first 200 people will each receive a free bag of compost.

***Stop by for some refreshments, the plant sale or try your luck at the
“Wheel of Dirt”. Fill out draw ballots for free compost or a
backyard composter.***

***For additional information, please contact
Gavin Duzsik, Environmental, Health & Safety Manager
at 902-277-1213***

*Guest Speakers
including
Elizabeth Peirce
starting at 10:30 a.m.
Plant Sale, Product
Displays and
“Wheel of Dirt”
starting at 09:00 a.m.*

Printed on recycled paper – Please recycle



COMMUNITY NEWS...(continued)

Update on Seaside May 20th Meeting by Claudia Zinck

We had a lovely evening together with twenty people in attendance—a slightly smaller group than usual due to illness and holidays.

As always, the food table was a highlight, offering a wonderful selection of both savoury and sweet treats. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

We celebrated Maureen Zinck, the only one with a recent birthday. She blew out the candle on the birthday cake to a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday!

Curtis was the lucky winner of the evening's raffle.

Cheryl provided a fun demonstration of charades, giving everyone a preview of what's in store for next month's activity.

The evening wrapped up with warm conversation and plenty of good company—just as it should be.

The next meeting will be held on June 20th at 7 PM. Remember, all are welcome, of any age.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

MISSING CAT

**“BEAR” WAS LAST SEEN AT HOME AT 119 NEW
HARBOUR ROAD ON APRIL 23 (VERY FRIENDLY)**



**ALL BLACK NEUTERED MALE CAT, LONG BODY,
RINGTAIL BREED (HIS TAIL CURLS UP AND DOWN
ONE SIDE OF HIS BODY)**

IF SIGHTED, PLEASE BRING HOME OR CALL

LISA 902 973 1161 THANK YOU!

(HIS BROTHER TEDI AND I REALLY MISS HIM)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ESSENTRICS

For mobility, strength, flexibility,
and range of motion.

**Tuesdays 10 – 11 AM at the Blandford
Community Centre,
July 15, 22, 29 and August 5, 12, 19, 26
\$105 or Drop In \$20**

Enjoy a fun fitness class for functional
movement with music.
Class is in bare feet, bring a yoga mat.

Contact: Beth Lenco www.bethlenco.com
or call 902 220 4809

Registration is through
Chester Recreation Department



Same Day Clinic Schedule – June 2025



Call (902) 273-2098 starting 30 minutes before each
clinic's start time.

(No Walk ins) *Schedule Is Subject to Change*

June 12 th	-	9:30 am to 1:00 pm
June 19 th	-	9:30 am to 1:00 pm
June 26 th	-	9:30 am to 1:00 pm



YARD SALE

We are clearing out our surplus tools
and left-over materials and equipment.

Lots of small hand and power tools,
staging planks, ladders and lots of odds
and ends of building materials.

When: Saturday, June 21
9:00am-1:00pm

Where: 48 Backman Road, Bayswater



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Matt Langley 902-277-0677

mlangley0677@gmail.com

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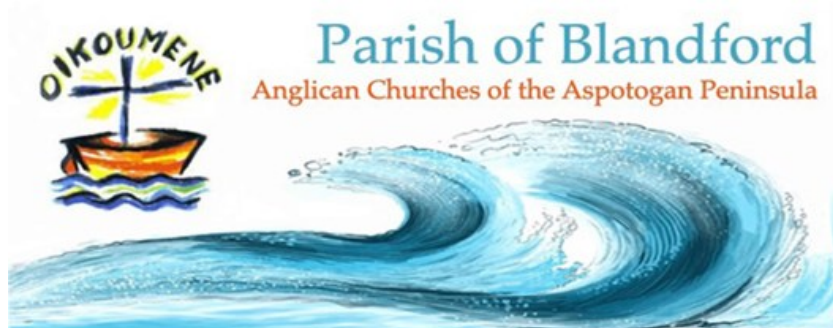
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Northwest Cove, NS

Owner





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

June 2025 Worship Schedule

For latest updates, go to: <https://parishofblandford.ca/service-schedule/>

June 1	10:00 am	All Saints, Bayswater
June 8	10:00 am	St. Barnabas, Blandford
June 15	10:00 am	St. Cuthberts, Northwest Cove
June 22	10:00 am	All Saints, Bayswater
June 29	10:45 am	St. Luke's, Hubbards

Seed Plant Exchange May 11, 2025

Rain, Wind, and Wild Umbrellas: A Garden Giveaway to Remember!

It all began with a tiny drizzle – nothing dramatic – as the Blandford Environment Committee gathered at the Community Centre on Saturday, May 10th. Spirits were high. Tents were coming out. So were the head-scratches and "how-does-this-thing-go-up" moments. Tables were set, plants proudly arranged, and seeds tucked safely into the driest corner we could find. It was all looking good. And then... Mother Nature decided to test us.

First came the wind. Then the rain. Buckets of it. Water collected in the middle of our "sunscreen" tent. One brave soul hoisted a beach umbrella in the centre to stop the tent from becoming a swimming pool – which caused mini tidal waves to pour off the sides. Puddles snuck in from every direction, soaking everything beneath the shelter. At the soggiest moment, the umbrella was perched on a table in a stand, heroically holding up the middle of the tent. It was less "garden fair" and more "camping misadventure."

Most people would have packed up and gone home. But we are not most people. Neither were the dozen or so hardy folks who came to drop off or pick up plants and seeds. Bless your muddy boots. Eventually, even the bravest of us knew it was time. We called it a day at noon (an hour early), and with the help of cheerful friends and family, we packed it all up. The last tent, soaking wet, was taken away to be dried on a sunny day... someday.

So, what did we learn? Next year, we're renting the Lodge Room. Even if the forecast says "tropical beach weather." No more tents in early May. Ever. Let's spread the word better – and maybe invite local garden clubs to join the fun. Despite it all, seeds and plants were shared. Community was built. And rain or shine (or windstorm), your Environment Committee is here to promote all things green and growing. Want a garden box this year? Contact Claudia at 902-228-2091; just don't ask her to bring a tent!

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints 10 am	2 Annual Ratepay- ers Mtg Lodge Rm, BCC 7 pm	3 Fire Trg 7 pm	4 BCC Board Mtg 7 pm	5 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	6 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am	7 Maibec/Can Exel Open House, East River Union Hall 9 am
8 St. Barnabas 10 am Athenæum OS 2:30 pm	9	10 Fire Trg 7pm	11	12 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	13 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am	14
15 St. Cuthberts 10 am	16 Fire Mtg 7 pm	17 Fire Trg 7 pm ARA AGM Youth Rm, BCC 7 pm	18	19 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	20 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am 45's OS 7 pm Seasiders BCC 7 pm	21 Breakfast BCC 9 am
22 All Saints 10 am	23	24 Fire Trg 7 pm	25	26 Pickleball BCC 6 pm	27 Chair Yoga BCC 10 am	28
29 St. Luke's, Hub- bards 10:45 am	30				BCC = Bland- ford Commu- nity Centre	OS = Ocean Swells Commu- nity Centre

JULY 2025
Newsletter
Deadline

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**SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR JULY NEWSLETTER:
JUNE 20, 2025**