

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

- 2 Craft, Coffee & Play Aston Rowant Church (p. 9)
- 7 Tower Tours & Cream Teas Aston Rowant Church (p. 9)
- 16 Craft, Coffee & Play Aston Rowant Church (p. 9)
- 21 Tower Tours & Cream Teas Aston Rowant Church (p. 9)
- 24-26 Pulse Holiday Club (p. 21)
- 29 Chinnor Flower & Produce Show (p. 21)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Bucks County Show (p. 23, 26)
- 3 Sydenham's Last Night of the Proms (p. 20)
- 12 Grave Talk (p. 8)
- 13 Music at the Shepherd's Crook (p. 22)
- 18 Allotment BBQ (p. 33)
- 19 Grave Talk (p. 8)
- 20 Parish Trip to Oxford Synagogue (p. 9)
- 25 Harvest Festival services St Andrew's & Sydenham (p. 9)

REGULAR DATES

MONDAYS

Kindergym morning Thame
Zumba 6.30pm KB Village Hall
Yoga 7.30pm KB Village Hall

TUESDAYS

Kindergym morning Chinnor
Bell Ringing 7.30pm Aston Rowant

WEDNESDAYS

Kettlebell Abs 6.00pm KB Village Hall
Yoga 7.00pm KB Village Hall

THURSDAYS

Smurf-fit 9.30am, Watlington
Toddler Church 11.00am St. Andrew's Church

FRIDAYS

Tiddlypeeps 9.30am Chinnor
Senior Circuits 10.00am Watlington

SATURDAYS (1st & 3rd of month)

Soul Space 5.30pm Crowell Church
(resumes Sept)

SUNDAYS (1st of month)

Aston Rowant Church Family
Friendly service 10.00am

VOL XXXXIII No 4

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016

ASTON ROWANT, KINGSTON BLOUNT & CROWELL PARISH NOTES



COPY FOR THE OCT/NOV ISSUE IS DUE ON 15TH SEP
Please send by email to sarahparishnotes@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ADVERTISERS
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PARISH NOTES PAGE ON FACEBOOK

There is now a Facebook page for the Parish Notes. www.facebook.com/Aston-Rowant-Kingston-Blount-Parish-Notes. You can also find it through KBAR on Facebook.

PARISH NOTES TEAM

Information in this newsletter is, as far as we know, accurate. The Parish Notes however, cannot accept responsibility for the quality of the information, services or items provided by other people or organisations.

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Is there anything you'd like to see covered in the Parish Notes?
COPY FOR THE AUGUST/SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS DUE ON 15 JULY
Please send by email to sarahparishnotes@gmail.com



KINGSTON BLOUNT VILLAGE HALL

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Monday–Sunday & Bank Holidays

Main Hall (8am–midnight) £14.00 per hour
Committee Room only £8.50 per hour
Children's Parties (daytime) £40.00 (3-4 hours)

For Non-Residents of the Parish of Aston Rowant

Monday–Sunday & Bank Holidays

Main Hall (8am–midnight) £15.00 per hour
Committee Room only £9.50 per hour
Children's Parties (daytime) £50.00 (3-4 hours)

Wedding Receptions £300 per day

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email: arbor@globalnet.co.uk

KINGSTON BLOUNT VILLAGE HALL DIARY DATES



Zumba	every Monday 6.30pm 07834 994699
Kettlebell Abs	every Wednesday 6.00pm 07801 553019
Yoga with Rachel Hawkins	every Monday 7.30pm & Wednesday 7.00pm 07552 185499

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

CAB Local office www.adviceguide.org.uk	01844 214827
Church Tower, Aston Rowant: R Newton	01844 352926
Dial-a-ride (for people with mobility problems)	01869 327048
Highways Pothole Hotline	0845 3101111
Highways Street Light Hotline	0800 317802
Hillock Garden Allotments: L. Martins	01844 353968
Library-Chinnor	01844 351721
Chinnor Village Centre	01844 353733
Oxon County Council www.oxfordshire.gov.uk	01865 792422
Pleck Wood: L Martins	01844 353968
Police-Thame (Thames Valley)	101 or 999
Porch: S Thompson	01844 351334
Porch: J Rooksby	01844 352320
Post office-Chinnor	01844 351214
Chinnor Village Centre	01844 353733
Schools:	
Aston Rowant C of E School	01844 351671
Icknield Community College Watlington	01491 612691
Lord Williams School Thame	01844 210510
Mill Lane School Chinnor	01844 352106
St Andrew's C of E, Chinnor	01844 351353
SODC Main Customer Services	01235 422422
SODC Refuse/Recycling	03000 610 610
SODC Planning	01235 422600
Reporting Fly-tipping	03000 610 610
SODC Environmental Department	01235 422403

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector

Revd Maggie Thorne
The Rectory, Chinnor OX39 4DH
01844 354626

Parish Administrator

Louise Heathcote csarc@btinternet.com
Chinnor Church Office, OX39 4PG 01844 352472

Associate Clergy:

Aston Rowant

The Rev'd Des Foote 01844 355945
The Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths 01844 355953
Tessa Wyatt 01844 351165

Crowell

The Rev'd Maggie Thorne 01844 354626
Jo Whitfield 01844 355263

Churchwardens

Aston Rowant: Jenny Flynn 01844 352345, Jeremy Wilcock 01844 761119
Crowell: Jeremy Peters 07711716614, Andy Warman 01844 351909

Retired Clergy Supporting Us in our Parish Serena Hutton 01844 354173

PCC Treasurer Michael DeVal12 Oakley Road, Chinnor OX39 4HB 07807 967452

For arrangements for Baptism, Confirmation & Marriage please contact the Parish Administrator (see above).

Methodist Services – Station Road, Chinnor

Roman Catholic Services – St Joseph's Thame Fr Mark Logorio 01844 212860

Holy Mass every Saturday at 6.00pm and Sunday at 9.00am and 11.00am



Aston Rowant Church by Louise Heathcote

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES

ASTON ROWANT CHURCH SERVICES

First Sunday of every month	10am	Family Friendly Morning Worship
2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th Sundays	10am	Parish Communion
1 st Tuesday of every month	8am	Morning Prayers – 20 mins to reflect on the day ahead

CROWELL CHURCH SERVICES

1st Sunday of the month	6pm	Evensong
2nd Sunday of the month	10am	Eucharist
1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month	Soul Space at 5.30pm	

Listening Ear – St Andrew's Church, Chinnor
every Wednesday 7.30– 9.30pm (resumes September 2016)



LOCAL PLAYGROUPS

And things to do with young children

CHECK TIMES DURING THE SUMMER, SOME PLAYGROUPS MAY ONLY BE ON DURING TERM TIME.

PULSE HOLIDAY CLUB

for Primary School aged children. 24th–26th August Parish Council Marquee, Whites Field, Chinnor. To register: ladacook@btopenworld.com
Or talk to Shane 07803 592763 (see page 8)

KINDERGYM

www.kindergym.co.uk

Classes in Thame and Chinnor on Monday and Tuesdays mornings (check website for timetable.)

TIDDLYPEEPS

www.tiddlypeeps-chinnor.co.uk

Playgroup on Friday mornings 9.30am – 11.30am
Just turn up, £1.50 per family

RED KITE CENTRE Thame – a range of sessions for families and children
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/red-kite-childrens-centre-thame>

CRAFT, COFFEE & PLAY at Aston Rowant Church
2nd & 16th August, 10am – 12 noon, Aston Rowant Church,
all very welcome.

TOWER TOURS & CREAM TEAS & I-SPY TOURS FOR CHILDREN

Sundays 7th & 21st August 2016, 2pm to 5pm
Aston Rowant Church.

SYDENHAM COFFEE MORNINGS at The Old School Hall. Monthly. Return in September

'TODDLER CHURCH' at St. Andrew's Church, Chinnor
Thursdays at 11.00am (during school term time)
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A LETTER FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear friends

Certainly for anyone who uses a computer, there will be times when they feel like they're drowning in emails. After an especially busy period, my husband reminded me of the film, Bruce Almighty. Bruce thinks he knows better than God and so God takes a break, leaving Bruce in charge. Of course, he has literally millions of prayer requests, all sent by email. That leads me to thank the person who passed this on to me:

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if God installed voice mail. Imagine praying and hearing the following –

Thank you for calling heaven.

For English press 1, for Spanish press 2, for all other languages press 3.

Please select one of the following options – press 1 for requests, press 2 for thanksgiving, press 3 for complaints, press 4 for all other enquiries.

I am sorry – all our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners right now; however your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order in which it was received, please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to God, press 1, to Jesus, press 2, to the Holy Spirit, press 3. If you would like to hear King David sing a psalm while you wait press 4. To find a loved one who has been assigned to heaven press 5, followed by his or her national insurance number, followed by the hash key.

If you receive a negative response, please hang up and try area code 666.

For reservations at heaven please enter John 316.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, life on other planets, and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive.

Our computer shows you have already prayed today, please hang up and try again tomorrow.

The office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again on Monday after 9.30 am.

If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local minister.

Thank you for calling and have a heavenly day.

This is all a hopefully humorous way of saying that, as a rule, I'm quick to respond to needs, but I will be taking a break for the first two weeks in August and will not be able to reply to any messages until my return.

If you too are taking a holiday, travel safely and enjoy the summer.

Every blessing

Maggie

PULSE HOLIDAY CLUB

For Primary School aged children. 24th–26th August Parish Council Marquee, Whites Field, Chinnor.

This year we are basing our teaching on Peter looking at trusting, tripping and training and all that is backed up with a space theme!

The timetable for each day is a morning of teaching and the afternoon spent doing crafts and sports.

Please encourage any young people you know to consider attending – it is great fun. Continue to collect the items we requested, small jars, used nail varnish, foil cases, milk bottle lids etc. If you would like to come and get involved maybe for an afternoon maybe longer please get in touch with Fiona Ludlow. And most importantly please keep Pulse in your prayers as we complete the final preparations.

To volunteer contact Fiona: sandsludlow@btinternet.com

To register a young person: ladacook@btopenworld.com

Or talk to Shane 07803 592763

GRAVE TALK

The truth is, we're all going to die. But nobody wants to say anything.

Grave Talk is a chance to talk about death, think about your funeral, ask questions and air your thoughts. It is for people of all faiths and doubts. The next talks will be held at St. Andrew's Church, Church Lane, Chinnor on 12th & 19th September, 7pm. We will be joined by Robert Surman (funeral director) and Pam Regler (solicitor) for talk and discussion on what happens when someone dies from the practical and legal perspectives.

Please book your place through Maggie: 01844 354626

BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Being a school governor is a very rewarding experience helping the school to give children the best education to prepare them for adult life. Aston Rowant school is of a Church foundation and we can nominate two foundation members of the governing body. There is currently a vacancy which we are looking to fill. As a Church appointment we have a special role in ensuring that the Christian ethos and values are promoted. However, the governing body needs other skills to maintain the high standards of the school. We would like find someone from the Church community able to make a contribution in one or more of the following areas: Project management, Community links, Business management and Data management. There are many training opportunities to help new governors fulfil their role. Please contact me if you are interested and please keep praying for our schools and the important role they play in our community.

Des Foote



TESSA WYATT'S COUNTRY DIARY

From Tessa Wyatt's Facebook posts this May

7th July

Back home, we have Little Owls nesting in an unused stable at the yard. You can hear the chicks hissing in the rafters above our heads. They are fledging now, and mum, or perhaps it's dad, gets very vocal if we go too close to their home cherry tree where one of the chicks was yesterday. Also good to see, a thrush foraging among the graves in the churchyard. Its rare to see them these days around here so it was a real joy to see it. That's one of only two that I know live here in the village. I so hope there are more!

11th July

The Little Owl chicks ate developing a nice aggression. When I go near the stable the hissing is getting louder incrementally as they get bigger. Still can't believe such a tiny bird can make such a huge sound. And the sun shone on the Aston Rowant village fete! A lovely afternoon with lots of happy faces and mackintoshes draped on trees.

12 July

Lady's Mantle growing in my field, and wild rhubarb by the gate. Tried a nibble of the rhubarb which was so sour my tongue went curly! I wonder if I added about 3lbs of sugar whether it would become edible ... Thinking of taking some of the LM seeds to spread in my wild patch in the garden. I suspect I will get better results there than with the rhubarb. This morning there were three baby blackbirds being fed on the ground by two mums. I was so scared that Daisy-next-door would come hunting them I stood guard until everyone had had enough. Silly really because I can't really stand in the garden all day like a scarecrow (scarecat?)

13th July

Lovely sunny morning. Hedgerows full of goldfinches jingling their pretty song and sparrows chattering. Just one sad event yesterday was the felling of three ancient lime trees on The Green. They were diseased and had become dangerous. The good news is that they will be replaced (one sapling is already in) for our great grandchildren to enjoy in the future as we have today.

Tessa Wyatt



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CHURCH DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST

Coffee, craft & play, all very welcome

2nd & 16th August, 10am–12 noon, Aston Rowant Church

Tower Tours and Cream Teas & I-Spy tours for children

Sundays 7th & 21st August 2016, 2pm to 5pm, Aston Rowant Church.

Summer Bible Study, 16th, 23rd & 30th August, 7pm at The Rectory

Children's Sunday Club, Sunday 21st August, 10.00am (and the 3rd Sunday of each month) at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Chinnor (Behind the Village Centre)

Pulse Holiday Club for children, Wednesday 24th August– Friday 26th August, Marquee on Whites Field.

Late Summer Sausage Sizzle, Mon 29th August, The Rectory from 1pm.
All welcome.

Chinnor's Flower and Produce Show

Monday 29th August 2016

SEPTEMBER

Sydenham's Last Night Of The Proms Saturday 3rd September 2016 at 7.30pm
in the church

Grave Talk, 12th & 19th September, St Andrew's Church 7pm

Harvest Festivals: Sunday 25th September

St. Andrew's Chinnor: 10.00am Harvest Service, 6.00pm Harvest Supper

St. Mary's Sydenham: 4.00pm Harvest service

Parish Trip to the Oxford Synagogue

Thursday 29th September 10.00am – 3.00pm. Includes: a tour, Q&A, a talk on art in Synagogues and lunch followed by cream tea at the village centre on return and a short talk on Jewish art by Serena Hutton. Cost in the region of £10.00 TBC

SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES

Everyone is welcome to come and do a bit of Bible study. 7.00pm at the Rectory. Each session lasts for approximately 1.5 hours and will include refreshments. We will be looking at different aspects of the Churches healing ministry. 16th, 23rd and 30th August. At the Rectory. For further details, please contact Maggie.

PARISH COUNCIL & LOCAL CONTACTS

Parish Website

www.astonrowant.org.uk

Parish Clerk

Stephanie Johns

clerk@astonrowant.org.uk

01844 350311

07939 030102

Parish Councillors:

Chairman Peter Tinson	Kingston Blount	01844 352817
Vice Chair Peter Hetherington	Kingston Blount	01844 353296
Councillor Gordon Crossley	Kingston Blount	01844 351296
Councillor Matthew Day	Kingston Blount	01844 351300
Councillor Lynn French	Aston Rowant	01844 350154
Councillor Andy Green	Kingston Blount	01844 353819

District Councillors:

Lynn Lloyd	01844 354313	lynn.lloyd@southoxon.gov.uk
Ian White	01844 352085	ian.white@southoxon.gov.uk

County Councillor

David Wilmshurst	01844 354106	david.wilmshurst@oxfordshire.gov.uk
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MP

John Howell	01491 612852	howelljm@parliament.uk
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Police Community Support Office

ThameHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
tel: 101

Village Hall & Playing Fields/Hillwerke Trust Chairman

Gordon Crossley

5 Bakers Piece, OX39 4SW

Village Hall Hire/Bookings

01844 351296
bookings@kbvh.org

Play Area –Please contact

Stephanie Johns 01844 350311 07939 030102

Aston Rowant Cricket Club Chairman

Paul Humphreys 07880 791022



KBAR DOGSHARE

Martin and Krzysia Gossage have a 14-year-old male black lab called Sambo, who could use a little company from time to time and perhaps a gentle walk. They

live in Kingston Stert. Phone 01844 352 050 or martingossage@aol.com.

Felicity and Zac Purchase-Hill have two Australian Labradoodles, Darcie (5) and Tuppence (3) who would like a holiday of their own from time to time. They're extremely friendly, very funny and make excellent sofa companions! Please contact them through KBAR, phone or email 07703 974 284 or contact@purchase-hill.com

Jo Whitfield has Sharna a Collie cross aged 4, who could use help with an occasional walk. They live in KB. Please email her at jo@simonwhitfield.plus.com

Margaret Al-Kubaisi has a very sweet 'puggle' who sometimes needs an Aunt or Uncle! And she is equally happy to help others. Please send her a direct message through KBAR Facebook page.

Lou, Mark and Bailey in Kingston Blount would be interested in walking or dogsitting weekends and during the week. You can phone, email or contact Lou through KBAR. 07930 426252 lmerry1@hotmail.co.uk

Have you had any success with the Dogshare that you'd like to let us know about, or if you would like to add your name to this list please email sarahparisnotes@gmail.com.



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED MINI-BUS DRIVERS AND ESCORTS NEEDED URGENTLY

PLEASE STEP FORWARD TO SUPPORT THIS VITAL EFFORT

Contact The Village Centre to get involved

01844353733

chinnorvc@hotmail.co.uk

Charity Number 1007949

Tower Tours and Cream Teas. Aston Rowant Church.



Sundays 7th & 21st August 2016, 2pm to 5pm

- *Tours of the Tower (sensible shoes needed, children over 8 years)*
 - *Demonstrations of bell ringing*
 - *Tours of the Church*
 - *Cream Teas*

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

This is my first update as Chairman of the Parish Council and it has been an eventful few months!

Planning continues to be a major focus for the Parish Council. The District Council (SODC) are currently consulting on their local plan which is intended to oversee housing development for the next fifteen years. In addition to meeting the housing needs for the District, South Oxfordshire also has to make provision for a proportion of Oxford's unmet needs. SODC are proposing building a new community to accommodate this need with development of Chalgrove Airfield the preferred option. The local plan proposes a 10% growth in Thame, Wallingford and larger villages such as Chinnor, whereas smaller villages should look to accommodate a 5% increase. This would mean around 25 new dwellings in our Parish. At the time of writing, the Parish Council are formulating their response to the SODC consultation.

The SODC Local Plan forms the basis for the development of our own Neighbourhood Plan. I am pleased to say that the committee to lead the development of the Neighbourhood Plan has been formed with Mark Thackray as Chairman and Jeanette Ewen as his deputy. It is important that the community 'owns' the plan and I was pleased to see a good number of volunteers put themselves forward for the Committee. The Parish Council, at our meeting in June, agreed that the current parish boundary should be the area for the plan although the possibility of including all or some of Crowell will be considered in the Autumn. I would like to thank Councillor Andy Green for his work in establishing the Committee.

It is sad to see the Cherry Tree empty and the pub has been put up for sale by Brakspears. The Cherry Tree is registered as a community asset by the Parish Council a few years ago and as such it can only be sold as a public house. Although there has been some interest, this has not followed through to a sale. Some local communities in the country have formed syndicates to buy their village pub – Sydenham being a nearby example. There is a limited time for the community to raise funds – the Parish Council has taken action to extend the time allowed until November. Anyone interested in purchasing the Cherry Tree, either as part of a consortium or as a sole purchaser, should contact me.

We currently have a vacancy on the Council as Peter Gibbons resigned from the Parish Council in May. This is an opportunity to get involved in your local community and (as I can say as a Councillor of just over a year's standing) is rewarding. We are currently looking to co-opt a member and, as there is only one member of the Council from Aston Rowant, I would encourage residents there to consider putting themselves forward (see p. 13). I would like to thank Peter for his sterling service to the Council over the years, including twelve as Chairman.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Aston Rowant Cricket Club's U15 XI who won the County Cup in June. It's always good to see so many youngsters training at the Club on Friday nights and equally good to see that hard work paying off!

Peter Tinson, Chairman, Aston Rowant Parish Council

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

A Meeting of the Parish Council has been held on 8th June and 13th July 2016 (There is no meeting in August). At the time of writing, the next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, 14th September at 7.30pm in Aston Rowant Church (To be confirmed).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P16/S1521/HH Erection of oak framed double garage to front of existing dwelling at Beacon Hill Farm, Aston hill near Lewknor, OX49 5SG – Recommendation: Should be approved

P16/S1925/HH Demolish store, construct timber framed garden room at The Old School House, School lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon, OX49 5SU – Recommendation: Should be approved

P16/S2090/FUL Erection of two agricultural buildings with associated hardstanding at Woodway Farm, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SE – Recommendation: Should be approved

P16/S0894/FUL (Amended) New replacement pavilion building with indoor cricket school, new replacement mower and tool store, new main car park and overflow car park, re-surfacing of existing car park, relocating of existing 2 flag poles, score box, cricket nets, and installation of two new electronic scoreboards. Removal of four trees, addition of new hedging and tree planting. (As amended to omit the overflow parking provision on pitch 2) and (as amended to alter the design and siting of the pavilion and indoor cricket school and to alter the internal access and parking provision) at Aston Rowant Cricket Club, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant, OX49 5ST – Recommendation: Should be Refused

P16/S2366/HH Single-storey link extension at 8 Dashwood Court Aston Rowant OX49 5TA – Current being reviewed

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL:

P16/S1153/HH Erection of a new attached outbuilding to replace existing hard-standing outdoor tennis court at Orchard House, High Street, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SJ – Granted

16/S1175/HH Double storey rear extension with 2 no. dormers and single storey side extension at Wakelins Cottage, High Street, Kingston Blount, OX30 4SJ – Granted

P16/S1564/HH Single storey extension and associated improvement works to the house and garage at Ferndale House High Street Kingston Blount OX39 4SJ – Granted



NOTES FROM THE ALLOTMENT

The answer lies in the soil!

As you know I have only had my plot for 18 months (since we moved into Hester's Barn). Last year my plot was very hard work and quite unrewarding because I was impatient to get started and did not pay enough attention to the quality of the soil. It was only after several spectacular failures that I took stock and realized that the soil needed some serious improvement.

Small seeds became swamped by weeds and even if they did emerge they were taken by pests, disease or lack of water. What I realized was that there were no worms on the plot. This was indicative that the soil was not in good heart. Worms help to increase the amount of air and water that gets into the soil. They break down organic matter (like leaves and grass clippings) into things that plants can use. When they eat they leave behind 'casts' that are a very valuable type of fertilizer.

By making three big bins of compost last summer and buying six large bags of soil conditioner and then working these materials into the soil this Spring, my plot is definitely retaining more moisture than last year. (Also SODC makes compost *freely* available to collect twice a year – Spring and Autumn – and it is worth the trip to pick up a couple of bags.)

This year I have started ALL my seeds in the airing cupboard and then transplanted them at home and when they were ready to 'pot on.' I planted them on the plot so that they were 'up, up and away' before the weeds could choke them. As the season has gone on I have been amazed at the numbers of worms that are working my soil for me and I have used generous amounts of chicken manure pellets as a real boost to my plants so that now I am harvesting lovely broad beans, shallots, cabbages, cauliflowers and wonderful new potatoes!

The season, for me, does seem to have been really slow and this may due to the cold nights we had in May and June and the 'cold rain' that came with those nights. My wife says 'rain is rain', but I am convinced that when we get those warm, summer downpours you can stand on your allotment and watch your plants grow afterwards!

I have been thrilled to watch the flowers I planted last year (roses, lupins, dianthus, gladioli and sweet williams) come on strongly. These I cut for colour around the house.

I stood on my plot on July 14 and looked out over the pasture to the north and the local farmer gave me a private display of 'One Man and His Dog' as he moved about 100 sheep from one field to another. How clever/obedient are those dogs! I thought to myself that this must be one of the most beautiful allotment gardens in England. It's easy to take such a vista for granted.

Good gardening!

Dick Ewen

(There is one 5 pole plot available – contact our secretary Lavinia if you would like to join us Laviniamartins@hotmail.com. Also there will be a BBQ on the allotment field on 18th September.)

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P16/S1565/LB Single storey extension and associated improvement works to the house and garage at Ferndale House High Street Kingston Blount OX39 4SJ – Granted

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

P16/S1597/HH First floor extension at 2 Aston Park, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SW – Granted

Please note that all Planning Applications for the Parish can be found on the Parish Council Website: <http://www.astonrowant.org.uk/Planning>

All past minutes of Aston Rowant Parish Council (Including the Annual Parish Meeting) can be found under: <http://www.astonrowant.org.uk/meetings.html>

Occasional updates concerning the Parish are added to the Kingston Blount / Aston Rowant (KBAR) Facebook page. To join, login to Facebook www.facebook.com, search for 'KBAR' and ask to join the group.

Stephanie Johns

Clerk to the Parish

Aston Rowant Parish Council

VACANCY ON ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

Following the resignation of one of our councillors, applications are sought from qualified persons who are interested in being considered for co-option to fill the vacancy.

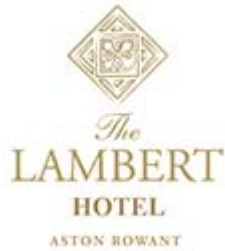
To qualify for co-option as a Parish Councillor applicants must:

- be a Commonwealth citizen, or citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or a citizen of another Member State of the European Community
- be aged 18 years or over
- be an elector of the parish, or during the whole of the last 12 months have occupied as owner or tenant land or other premises in the parish, or live within 4.8 kilometres (three miles) of the parish boundary.

Please send a brief synopsis about yourself, reason for wishing to be a councillor, previous community/council work, interests, etc. to reach the Clerk:

**Ms Stephanie Johns, 12B Bakers Piece,
Kingston Blount, Chinnor, Oxon, OX39 4SW,**
by noon on Friday 2nd September 2016.

Please telephone 01844 350311 if you have any queries.



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LIFE AS A GIRL IN KINGSTON BLOUNT

Hello everyone! As you've probably read lots of times before, my name is Eliza and this is life from the point of view of an 11 (it was just my birthday!) year old.

First of all, Sports Day! This was my last sports day at Aston Rowant school! But it was one to remember. I was in group Bearded Moon Fish with my friend Amber and brother Hector. It was really nice weather (as always.) I think my favourite part about Sports Day is seeing the little ones do the dressing up races. They always look so cute! After we moved around the stations there were sprint and long distance races. I did both. On the long distance, me, Ruby and Elsa (two of my friends in year six) decided to run together. We all held hands and ran the two laps like that. It had been about ten minutes since everyone had crossed the finish line when we came in holding hands.

Aston Rowant Fete—I love this fete because it's not very big but really fun. I was at the school council stall but I still had time to get my face painted and eat a burger, luckily. And the Leavers Service at Aston Rowant School! This year I was actually leaving which was weird because for the past five years I said goodbye to other people but this year it was other people saying goodbye to me. It was really sad but also really exciting as we are going to a whole new school. All of the classes said a goodbye or drew a picture for us which was really nice. It's really weird because now it's the summer holidays I'm never going to go back to be taught. I'll really miss it, but don't worry I'll come back and visit.

After the picnic we went straight to a waterpark called Liquid Leisure. It has a massive inflatable, which is on water, so you can go down massive slides and swings into the lake. We did that for an hour which was really fun and then we got out and went straight to the other side of the park where we went on a banana boat for twelve minutes which felt like three years. It's basically an inflatable banana that has handles on, which is attached to a speed boat. The speed boat started off really slowly and then sped up really quickly so you fell off. It was really fun but I fell off about a hundred times!

Also, Lord Bills has a week long summer school for year seven students who are going there in September. I think it will be fun but I still have to get up really early for it. It's all really exciting though.

That's all folks! This school year has gone really quickly, thank you to everyone who made it amazing! I can't believe it's the summer already! Have fun,

Eliza

Project Star Trek has started!

The Project was reviewed at the 8th June and 13th July ARPC meetings and the current parish boundary established as the area for the plan. The possibility of including all or some area of Crowell will be discussed in autumn 2016; meanwhile work can now proceed making a grant application to SODC.

Project Team

A new project team has now been established and the first introductory meeting took place on 12th July

Chairman Mark Thackeray

Deputy Chairman Jeanette Ewen

Project Planning Mark Jones

Finance Paul Overton

Communications Les Martins (assisted by John Wyatt)

Environment Tessa Wyatt

Secretary and Administration Andy Green

Housing Design Matt Day

Team member Peter Tinson (ARPC Chairman)

In addition Peter Hetherington and some others have offered support regarding green space definition, village history, footpaths and other skills as required.

SODC

The SODC Local plan now called SODC 2032 went into Stage 3 public consultation from 27th June and recently SODC approved their 15 year 'new' housing target, this includes a Small Villages 5% target. Therefore the likely requirement for new dwellings will be approx. 25 over the next 15 years and using 'infill' where possible

Page 89 of the SODC preferred Options document Para 11.18 (small sites and 5%) and 11.19 (infill) are applicable, please see the SODC 2032 plan for further information — all 85 pages! Please note SODC 2032 is still at the consultation stage and the final confirmation of targets etc. will not be until early 2017.

Actions

The immediate actions agreed by the project team are as follows:

- 1 Project team to meet formally every month from September 2016
- 2 Evaluate and define 'Green spaces' and prepare a list for consideration at next meeting
- 3 Prepare first draft timing plan
- 4 Contact SODC re funding application
- 5 Team to develop a Vision/Values/Principles statement
- 6 Define the current number of dwellings within the Parish, meanwhile assume target is 25

The next meeting will be chaired by Mark Thackeray, meanwhile if anyone wishes to contact the project team please make contact via myself — see Parish Notes contacts.

Andy Green ARPC 14th July



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ASTON ROWANT FETE!

Aston Rowant School's PTA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that helped, donated or attended the fete. It was a roaring success and the sun came out just in time. We managed to raise £3,000 which is an amazing achievement.

Aston Rowant School PTA



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NEW LANDLORDS AT THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK

New owners Gosia and Milan have taken on the challenge of continuing the great success the Shepherd's Crook in Crowell has seen over recent years. It has been a lifelong dream for Gosia, who originally comes from Poland but has spent eight years working in London, to run a village pub. 'We decided to make a go of it, as much for the local community as for ourselves. It's a shame that so many pubs are closing and this is such a lovely place, we didn't want to see it disappear. We are a family pub, which means all are welcome: we are child friendly and dog friendly and we're hoping to support local businesses.'

Their chef, Dan, prepares great pub food to a very high standard using fresh locally sourced ingredients, and they continue to carry a wide selection of local and guest ales.

They are planning several live music events this summer, including BREWHA-HA on 3rd September, (see page 22), check the website for details, the-shepherds-crook.co.uk.

The pub is open Tues-Sun 12-11pm

Food served from 12-2.30pm & 6-9pm



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ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL HOUSE TRUST

The Aston Rowant School House Educational Trust was set up 1992 when the former teacher's house, belonging to the Aston Rowant Church of England Primary School, was sold. The money from the sale was invested to raise income which is available to assist with education.

The precise rules are that the Scheme allows the Trustees to apply the income:

- In or towards promoting the education of pupils attending the Aston Rowant Church of England Primary School.
- In or towards promoting the education (including social and physical training) of persons under the age of 25 years who have at any time attended the school or who are resident in the Parish of Aston Rowant.

Some residents in the parish may either have children or are themselves eligible to obtain a grant. To be considered you need to apply in writing to the Trustees who will consider applications at their bi-annual meetings in May and November. Each application will be considered on merit – there is no guarantee.

If you would like more information please contact either:

Peter Lambert 01844 352617, or Mary Williams 01844 353927.

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A LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

At Aston Rowant we are developing our CREATIVE CURRICULUM! Rather than individual subjects driving the curriculum, it's the needs of children that are determining our emphasis. Obviously, it's important that children learn what's in the statutory curriculum, but most teachers know that children need much more than this. Balancing children's needs with the statutory curriculum will always be a challenge, but instead of the two acting in opposition we are ensuring the content of the curriculum meets the needs of our children AND fulfils statutory requirements.

What does this mean?

To do this, our children, teachers and staff have developed themes to reflect our children's interests and heritage, for example our Year 1 and 2s will be exploring the Incredible Inventors of the Victorians in the Autumn term. This will be used as a core basis for the curriculum and weaved through every aspect of learning including history, science, geography, music and literacy. This enables our children to learn the skills, knowledge and processes to help them become independent learners, who are also able to collaborate effectively in problem solving situations, while gaining a deeper mastery of key objectives both inside and outside the classroom.

These ever-evolving themes are continually adapted and improved through careful evaluation and feedback. We believe the creative curriculum themes are the key to accelerated learning in all of the curriculum areas.

We are looking to create exciting integrated themes which inspire the children to LEARN, and most importantly... enjoy learning.

To do this, we have also established some key 'drivers' for each term.

Drivers are the things that shape our curriculum. They relate to:

- The needs of our children
- The needs of our community
- The values of our school
- The location of our school

Examples of our drivers are enterprise skills, environmental issues, personal and social development, communities or spiritual and moral development, key historical people and periods of time, geographical features, scientific knowledge. These drivers help us to prioritise content.

If you take a walk around our school — you could find yourself aboard a ship bound for a strange new land, fighting for the rights of an enslaved child from another country, taking part in Greek theatre, entering a Bread Cafe or dodging the hungry Gruffalo in the deep dark forest!

Eve Roberts

Headteacher – Aston Rowant Primary School

Visit [www. http://aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk/](http://aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk/) for more information

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- ❖ Ham hock terrine, piccalilli and toast.....£7.00
- ❖ Field mushroom rarebit with fresh salad.....£7.00
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- ❖ Beer battered Fish and chips with crushed minted peas and homemade tartare.....£12.00
- ❖ Cod loin with crispy new potatoes.....£13.00
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- ❖ Corn fed chicken supreme, creamed leeks and bacon, parmentier potatoes.....£13.00
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DESSERTS

- ❖ Chocolate brownie with chocolate sauce and vanilla ice cream.....£6.00
- ❖ Apple and cinnamon crumble with custard.....£6.00
- ❖ Rhubarb Eton Mess.....£6.00
- ❖ Cheese and Biscuits.....£6.00
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Children's Menu also available.

GARDEN BONFIRES – THE RULES

The term bonfire was originally used for large open-air fires on which bones were burnt. They might not be as gruesome now but they can still cause smoke and problems for others.

What is Wrong with A Bonfire?

They can be a fire hazard, and can be a real health risk to sufferers of asthma, bronchitis, people with heart problems, the very young or old, due to the dangerous particles contained in bonfire smoke.

The Legal Position

Bonfires are not prohibited by any bylaws. Control of domestic bonfires largely relies on the statutory nuisance regime under section 80 & 82 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. This regime works by assessing the impact of an activity across a property boundary, where it can be demonstrated that a situation has a material adverse impact on the 'ordinary physical comfort of human existence'. I.e. you are regularly affected by smoke in your house, or are unable to use your garden because of smoke.

It is the impact that is assessed rather than the activity, bonfire, itself.

It is unlikely that occasional bonfires would constitute a Statutory Nuisance, unless the impact was particularly severe.

Taken from www.Gov.uk

There are no laws against having a bonfire, but there are laws for the nuisance they can cause.

Burning domestic waste: You can't get rid of household waste if it will cause pollution or harm people's health. This includes burning it. You can get rid of household or garden waste by composting or recycling it. Contact your local council to find out how to dispose of garden waste and about recycling in your area.

Danger to traffic by smoke: You could be fined if you light a fire and you allow the smoke to drift across the road and become a danger to traffic.

Complain about a neighbour's bonfire: Your council can issue an 'abatement notice' if a neighbour's bonfire is causing a nuisance. A bonfire must happen frequently to be considered a nuisance. Your neighbour can be fined up to £5,000 if they don't stick to the notice.

If you are concerned about bonfire smoke coming from a neighbour's garden consider speaking to your neighbour first. If a direct approach does not work you may wish to consider mediation. If this informal action fails then a complaint can be made to South Oxfordshire District Council's Environmental Department, 01235 422403, they have a duty to investigate whether the smoke impact constitutes a statutory nuisance.



NOTICEBOARD

What's going on in Kingston Blount, Aston Rowant & nearby

Music Nights at the Shepherd's Crook

New owners Gosia and Milan are planning several live music events at the Shepherd's Crook this summer (see page 17). On 3 September don't miss BREWHAHA – an acoustic duo – Ruth Brewer and John Davis – who play a mixture of country, pop and gentle rock featuring songs by Fleetwood Mac, George Ezra, Bon Jovi, Justin Bieber and many more. Check the website for details of this and other events, the-shepherds-crook.co.uk.

Sydenham's Last Night Of The Proms

Will take place on Saturday 3rd September at 7.30pm in the church. Chris Hood and the Sydenham Choir with invited guests will present a wonderful night of light music including songs from the shows, excerpts from Gilbert & Sullivan and a finale of rousing favourites: Land of Hope and Glory, Rule Britannia, Jerusalem and much more! Further details and tickets from Siobhan on 01844 353278.

Parish Walk

By popular request, following a good turn out from Parishioners for our May event, we will be walking from the Crowell green on Sunday 16 October leaving at 10.00 am. Crowell Hill, Kingston and Grove Woods, Aston Rowant and Kingston Blount. It is 5 miles and the beech trees' Autumn colour should be somewhere near its best. We will walk at an easy pace and well behaved dogs are welcome. Peter Hetherington, Leading for Aston Rowant Parish Council and Thame and Wheatley Ramblers 07767 647714

Lunchtime Supervisor Needed

Aston Rowant School are looking for a lunchtime supervisor from September. The position is for Monday to Friday 1 hour a day (12 noon till 1pm) term time only. However days could be negotiated to a part time position if required.

Please contact the office if interested 01844 351671

office.3180@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk

Hudson Help

Jack Hudson is still raising funds for his expedition to Borneo next year and looking for any odd jobs or babysitting. 01844 352247 or text 07714 136911.

Mini-Bus Drivers & Escorts Needed

The Village Centre in Chinnor urgently needs volunteers. If you think you can help please contact 01844 353733, chinnorvc@hotmail.co.uk



NOTICEBOARD

Tai Chi in the Village Hall

Unfortunately, the Thursday Tai Chi classes for the over 60s have ceased; they were being run under the 'Go Active Gold' project funded by Sport England to support people in rural villages to increase physical activity levels with a focus on social and mental well-being. However, there was insufficient take-up from this community to make them viable. Jan Badji, who was running the group, holds classes for all age levels in several other places (Chinnor, Thame, Wheatley etc.) and if you are interested in joining one of these, you can contact Jan on 07917 673692 for more details.

Aston Rowant Bell Ringers

Are you aged between ten and seventy? Can you catch a ball? Can you count from 1 to 6 and back again to 1, five times without stopping? Then how about joining us? We practise on Tuesday evenings from 7:30. Free tuition! Please contact Robert Newton (01844 352926).

Advertising in the Parish Notes

If you have a small business, or work from home the Parish Notes offer an affordable way to reach every local household. They are published every two months, (six issues a year.) You can either pay for a one off, or there is a discount if you advertise for a full year. Please contact Julian Knight if you are interested. jknight652@aol.com

1/4 page £10 or six for £40

1/2 page £15 or six for £60

Full page £30 or six for £120

Bucks County Show

The Bucks County Show which will be held at Weedon Park on Thursday 1st September. This year the main attractions are the Royal Signals White Helmets Display Team, Band of the Royal Corps of Signals, Cookery Theatre, Vintage Tractors, The Sheep Show, Horse, Cattle, Sheep and Home and Garden Classes, Rural Crafts, over two hundred trade stands including the Shopping Marquee and the Food Hall. Tickets can be purchased prior to the Show at a discount. (see page 26)

Flower Arrangers Wanted

... to enter the 'Reflections' class at Chinnor's Flower and Produce Show on Monday 29th August. This class was nominated by Churches in Chinnor with the agreement of the Flower Show committee. The show schedule, with an entry form will be available nearer the time from various locations in Chinnor, or contact Rod Thorpe (rodandlizthorpe@gmail.com)