ASTON ROWANT, KINGSTON BLOUNT & CROWELL

PARISH NOTES



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Information in this publication 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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every Wednesday 6.00pm 07801 553019

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every Wednesday 7.00pm 07741 438968 Rachel is currently offering online yoga classes contact her for details

Flowers 4 All

third Thursday of every month 07748 408442

Gentle Chair Based Exercises

every Wednesday from 10.30am with Rachel or Wendy Hawkins 01844 351301

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

CAB Local office www.adviceguide.org.uk	01844 214827
Chinnor Village Centre	01844 353733
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
Library-Chinnor	01844 351721
Oil Syndicate adam.bernstein@mac.com.	01844 350440
Oxon County Council www.oxfordshire.gov.uk	01865 792422
Police-Thame (Thames Valley)	101 or 999
Poor's Hillock Allotments: Rupert Wolstenholme	07866 302697
Rupert.wolstenholme@btinternet.com	
Porch: S Thompson	01844 351334
Porch: J Rooksby	01844 352320
Post office-Chinnor	01844 351214
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 610610
SODC Planning	01235 422600
Reporting Fly-tipping	03000 610610
SODC Environmental Department	01235 422403
Village Hall Hire/Bookings: Andrea Tinson	07391 139707

PARISH COUNCIL & LOCAL CONTACTS

Parish Website

www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Tracy Lambourne clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353989 07971039612

Parish Councillors:

01844 352817
07940752446
01844 351392
01844 353051
07785 905120
07976 373512
07710 232349

District Councillors:

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

County Councillor

Jeannette Matelot jeannette.matelot@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MP

John Howell 01491 612852 howelljm@parliament.uk

Police Community Support Office

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

Village Hall Hire/Bookings

Andrea Tinson 07391 139707 bookings@kbvh.org

Play Area

Tracy Lambourne 01844 353989 clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Aston Rowant Cricket Club Chairman

Simon Tremlin 07780 672552

LETTER FROM JOHN HOWELL MP

As I write in the middle of September we are facing tighter measures to try to halt the recent rise in COVID cases. This is disappointing but not entirely unanticipated. There are, of course, many views on how the Government should respond to these issues and there will be some who are not happy with new measures either because they think they are not strong enough or because they find them too restrictive. Several very specific scenarios have been raised with me for guidance on what to do but it is impossible for the Government to set out the requirements in every individual situation. The key has to be in the distancing and hygiene measures that have been set out.

Reports of scams in relation to COVID Track and Trace are worrying particularly where people are trying to get money for supposed tests. Scams also risk undermining the genuine process which is important to help control the spread of the virus. There is no charge for Government COVID tests and NHS track and Trace will not ask for any sort of payment details, pin numbers or to download anything from the internet.

Now to a completely different issue that I know is dear to the hearts of many in the constituency – planning. The Government has published proposals on reforms to the planning system and the consultation is open until the end of October. I am pleased to see this as I think that radical reform of the planning system is necessary. The proposals, if accepted, will improve the way that councillors and local communities carry out an important local planning function – the production of a local plan. I mention local communities here because Neighbourhood Plans remain crucial for the future of the planning system and I am pleased that the Secretary of State has confirmed ongoing support for Neighbourhood Planning. I know that this will be welcomed by the many communities that have put a huge amount of effort into setting out their own vision for their future through a Neighbourhood Plan.

Another important issue on the agenda at present is what has become known as the green recovery – that as we emerge out of COVID restrictions and get the economy going again we learn from the environmental benefits of lockdown. This is something that has to be reflected across Government Departments and I continue to work with colleagues to be mindful of this as any new proposals come forward.

Now that Parliament has returned there is a busy programme. On many issues I make comment on my website so please do have a look. www.johnhowell.org.uk. If you have an issue that you would like to raise with me, if possible, please email me at john.howell.mp@parliament.uk. If you cannot email you can write to me at my constituency office - PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD.

John Howell MP

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Rector to the United Parish

The Rev'd Dr. Jacky Barr The Rectory, Chinnor OX39 4DH 01844 352027 07769 825 305 revd.jackybarr@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Tricia Prescott 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

Crowell

To be appointed

Churchwardens

Aston Rowant: Richard Boarder 07795 681263, Jeremy Wilcock 01844 761119 Crowell: Maggie & Andy Warman 01844 351909

PCC Treasurer

Michael DeVal12 Oakley Road, Chinnor OX39 4HB 07807 967452

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

Methodist Services - Station Road, Chinnor

CROWELL CHURCH

The good news is that after revisiting the rules we are able to have a regular two services a month: 1st Sunday, Evening Prayer and 3rd Sunday, Evening Prayer with Eucharist. Both at 6pm. Sadly, we are still unable to comply with requirements for leaving the church open for visitors but we can still open to individuals by appointment for private prayer.

The Sunday services for the parish's four churches are posted in the porch giving a service every Sunday at St Andrew's Chinnor and alternate Sundays at Crowell, Sydenham and Aston Rowant.

Should you wish to attend a virtual service, they are being live streamed on the Diocese and CSARC Parish websites. Oxford.anglican.org and chinnorunitedchurches. co.uk respectively.

Jacky's sponsored walk raised over £2,000.00 for church fabric funds.

Should anyone still wish to contribute, please send your cheque and, if possible, Gift Aid certificate to Jacky at The Chinnor Rectory, High Street, Chinnor, OX39 4DH or direct to the Parish Account sort code 40-52-40 with account number 00019680. Please indicate which church fabric fund you are donating to. Thank you.

Please don't dispose of plastic on the compost heap. A black bin is sited at the Lychgate along with a brown bin. The compost heap by the horse field fence is going to be removed as it is beginning to impact on graves. Please use the area alongside the Old Rectory fence. A path has been mown to the area, which was the original site.

The car park has been opened for a test period and will remain so unless any unwanted activities are witnessed. If you see anything anti-social, then please advise the Wardens and/or the police. By working together, we can keep the car-park safe and open.

Sorry for the delay in returning the wildlife areas to the normal mown state but we have been trying to juggle time. Our Warden function is completely voluntary as are our few helpers. Should anyone wish to give some time in whatever role, then please call us to discuss. Some comments recently would indicate a view that we are paid to look after the churchyard but we are not. Unlike St Andrew's where the Parish Council picks up that task.

If anyone would like an e-copy of the monthly Chinnor Parish Magazine then please e-mail the parish admin office at csarc@btinternet.com

The APCM, due 22nd September has again had to be delayed and is now listed for 28th October at St Andrew's. There is a poster in the porch with details of the meeting and how to attend in person or by 'zoom' if you wish to do so.

Andy & Maggs Warman

(Church Wardens)

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

As I write we are enjoying some bright and sunny weather but the leaves are already starting to turn and it won't be long before winter is upon us. The two storms that hit the UK in August were a stark reminder that we need to prepare for the winter months to make sure that the chances of problems caused by adverse weather are lessened. I would ask that all landowners make sure that ditches are cleared and free flowing, and that any culverts passing under driveways are clear and have not collapsed. Similarly, now that the nesting season has finished, hedges can be cut back to ensure that there is good vision at road junctions and that pedestrians are not forced into to middle of the road.

The exceptional rainfall last winter led to some flooding on the Moors Path between Aston Rowant and Kingston Blount. I am pleased to report that Spencer Chapman, the landowner of the affected section of the path, has installed a culvert under the path so that, at times of high rainfall, the path should no longer flood. We are grateful to Spencer for carrying out this work.

The work on Kingston Blount playground was completed in August but identified a further problem which will be remedied in the coming months. However, we were able to open the playground with part of the climbing frame fenced off. The recent inspection noted that the apparatus in the playground is starting to near the end of its life and will need replacing in the next few years. The Council are looking to identify the cost of replacing much of the equipment and, once the cost has been established, will look at options for raising funds for this work.

The restrictions relating to the pandemic meant that we were unable to allow our litter picker to work. Fortunately less traffic through the area has meant that the volume of litter has decreased but we are anticipating that this will increase when something approaching normality returns. Robyn Leinster has been carrying out this role but has now stood down – I should like to thank Robyn for her work in keeping the parish tidy over the past four years. We will be looking to re-establish this post when permitted.

Finally, the Covid-19 pandemic has forced a great number of plans to be changed during 2020. Clare Taylor from Kingston Blount had been planning on running the London Marathon in April but, after a winter of training, the race was deferred until 4th October. With the mass participation race now cancelled, Clare is taking part in what is being billed as the world's largest virtual marathon and will be running her 26 miles around the local area on that day. Clare is running for the mental health charity Mind – if you would like to support her efforts, her JustGiving page is www.justgiving.com/fundraising/40clare. Clare will be publishing her route on the KBAR Facebook page and it would be great if parishioners could get out on her route to give her some encouragement.

Peter Tinson

Chairman - Aston Rowant Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Like so many others, the life of the Neighbourhood Plan is on hold for the foreseeable future, for a number of reasons. Most obvious is the Covid 19 situation which precludes meetings of more than six people, when a review of the NP consultation responses requires that residents ought to be permitted to be present at the meeting. Secondly, the government is in the process of a major revamp of the planning system, starting with the current White Paper, so who knows where this will leave the NP process. Lastly, SODC are still in the middle of their Local Plan process, so those goalposts may yet move again if the housing policy changes. As a NP has to conform with national and local planning guidance, we are left, once more, in limbo.

It's all very frustrating for those residents who have given a good deal of time and effort over four years to get the NP to its current position, only to see things dragging on, with no known end date. Thanks to all who have taken an active role or a passing interest.

With no knowledge of when a public meeting might be permitted, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will not meet again until things are back to something approaching normality. You'll just have to find something else to do on the second Tuesday of each month. Watch this space.

Mark Thackeray

Chairman - Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group



ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

There was a Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 9th September (no meeting in August) where the applications detailed below were discussed.

At the time of writing, the next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 14th of October and Wednesday 11th November and until COVID19 restrictions are lifted, we will continue to meet virtually via the ZOOM application.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P20/S1180/FUL – Erection of a single dwelling. Access derived from the existing drive which serves Aston Cottage. Two parking spaces will be provided, together with a turning area, to enable vehicles to leave the site in forward gear. (Amended plans received 10th July 2020, revising position of proposed dwelling, reducing footprint, retaining section of frontage hedging and amending dormer window detail) at Aston Cottage 18 Church Lane Aston Rowant OX49 5SS. OBJECT AS BEFORE.

P20/S0675/LB – Amendment due to Bat Survey received 9 July 2020 for development work at the following location: Chiltern Cottage Pleck Lane Kingston Blount. NO ACTION.

P20/S2302/LB – The application at Ferndale House, High Street, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SJ is for:

- 1. Remove existing post and rail fence and seeded holly
- 2. Dig out grass and replace with stone clippings
- 3. Replace existing timber gates
- 4. Rebuild raised bed wall
- 5. Construct new garden wall 6. Rebuild collapsed perimeter wall
- 7. Erect greenhouse
- 8. Erect wooden garden sauna.

FULLY SUPPORT

P20/S2643/HH – As above, also at Ferndale House, High Street, Kingston Blount.

P20/S2662/HH – Erection of new attached outbuilding to replace existing hardstanding outdoor tennis court at Orchard House, High Street, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SJ. FULLY SUPPORT (renewal of lapsed application P16/S1153/HH which we supported, but where work has not started).

P20/S2457/FUL – Demolition of existing house and erection of a detached dwelling and garage, while keeping and refurbishing current outbuilding at Queens Gate Bungalow Butts Way Aston Rowant.

Plus: amend No.1 25/Aug to show accurate labelling of orientation of elevations. FULLY SUPPORT, but with comments/reservations regarding the design validity of double driveway (no other properties in Butts Way have this)

P20/S3275/FUL – Change of use from a public house to a single residential dwelling house at The Shepherds Crook Crowell OX39 4RR. Not in our Parish.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS:

None.

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SODC:

P20/S1839/HH – Extensions and modifications to enlarge the residential accommodation with the addition of two rooflights at The Park Cottage Chinnor Road Aston Rowant OX49 5SH. GRANTED

P20/S1774/FUL – Variation of condition 2 on planning applications P17/S4443/ FUL and P18/S3392/FUL to regularise the kitchen window, fenestration detail and the roof detail at the party wall, plus other minor revisions at the former Cherry Tree pub in Kingston Blount. GRANTED

P20/S0675/LB – To replace the existing roof tiles at Chiltern Cottage, Pleck Lane, Kingston Blount, OX39 4RU (Bat Survey received 9 July 2020). GRANTED

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

None

PLANNING INSPECTORATE APPEAL:

P19/S2062/FUL Town Farm Cottage, Brook Street, Kingston Blount, Chinnor OX39 4RZ, appeal reference APP/Q3115/W/19/3243590. The appeal against a refusal to grant planning permission for the formation of new access and driveway is dismissed.

WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING:

The implications for planning in our parish and the effect on the emerging Neighbourhood of the Government White paper on proposed planning changes published on 6/August with radical and far-reaching proposals. There is the potential for the loss of our ability to have input at local level.

Chief considerations are:

- 1. Changes to the Current Planning System details in the link below. We have until 1st October to respond. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system
- 2. Planning for the Future, white paper details in the link below. We have until 15th October to respond. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future
- 3. Transparency and Competition details in the link below. We have until 29th October to respond. https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transparency-and-competition-a-call-for-evidence-on-data-on-land-control

IF YOU FEEL SRONGLY ABOUT ANY OF THESE ISSUES PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AND LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS.

Please note that all Planning Applications for the Parish can be found on the Parish Council Website: http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk under 'Parish Council' and then 'Planning'.

All past minutes of Aston Rowant Parish Council (Including the Annual Parish Meeting) can be found under: http://www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk under 'Parish Council' and then 'Meetings'.

Occasional updates concerning the Parish are added to the Parish Council's website and Facebook pages as well as the Kingston Blount/Aston Rowant (KBAR) Facebook page.

Tracy Lambourne

Clerk to Aston Rowant Parish Council

BONFIRE NIGHT FIREWORKS & ANIMALS

Please inform your neighbours in advance if you are planning on holding a fireworks display. This will allow them to make sure their pets are safe and to minimise any unnecessary suffering to them. Dogs, cats and horses as well as smaller animals can be extremely distressed by fireworks.

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SHEPHERDS CROOK PUB MAY BE LOST

The owners of the Shepherds Crook have submitted a new planning application for a change of use to convert the pub into a private residence.

The Shepherd's Crook is now the last pub remaining in our parish. If you believe that it is a valuable and important pub for our community you can comment on this planning application and make your voice heard.

It is easy to comment, simply go to www.southoxon.gov. uk and under 'Planning and building in South Oxfordshire' click on 'Find and comment on planning applications' where you can search by reference number P20/S3275/FUL and find guidance on commenting.



ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL FOOTPATH AND AMENITIES GROUP (FAAG)

No Horse Riding on The Moors Footpath between Kingston Blount and Aston Rowant.

OCC have changed the signing on this public footpath, AR 7, showing clearly that horse riding is not permitted. This was endorsed by Aston Rowant Parish Council at their last Zoom Council Meeting. This path stretches all the way across Aston Rowant Green where riding is already banned. Horses hooves damage the surface particularly in wet conditions and the Parish Council, Parishioners, Land Owners and Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment and Garfield Weston Foundation have invested tens of thousand pounds and their time over recent years to provide a better surface for children going to and from school and for walkers generally. We are pleased to see more walkers using the path than ever before.

Peter Hetherington

Group Chairman and Footpath Warden, Aston Rowant Parish. Tel 07767 647714.

MARK LORD, LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

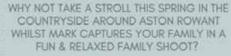
Mark has been a Pink Lady Food Photographer of the Year Finalist in 2017, 2018 and 2019 and is the Official Photographer to The Prince's Countryside Fund. He also specialises in wedding photography, family portraits and business photography. His passion is meeting people from different walks of life and capturing beautiful, natural pictures of them.

If you book Mark for a relaxed family shoot, you may meet at his home in Aston Rowant before taking a walk down towards Fiveways. The walk helps everyone unwind and interact and Mark will capture some beautiful images which your family will treasure for years to come. After the shoot you will receive a secure online gallery from which you can choose digital files, prints or he also has some stunning wall products to choose from. Portrait shoots from Mark's home are £25 or a shoot can be arranged at your family home if you prefer.

Please contact Mark for more information. info@marklordphotography.co.uk 01844 351218



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NEWS FROM FIVEWAYS

At the time of writing the yellow toadflax is dominant at the lower end. This is a common pretty wild flower, especially along the M40. It spreads by seeds and underground roots. I have also introduced the pink variant which is a common garden weed like the purple version. Both have much smaller flowers but flower all summer. All are popular with insects. I was also delighted to see red berries on the 7 hollies along Church Lane, there is one male holly to 6 females.

The footfall during the pandemic has revealed artefacts which my youngest grandson has developed an interest in - 100 year old parish bottle last news. Another object exposed for the first time is a heavy lump of slag found by the old wooden bench. This is hard to date but very early but possibly a residue from an iron furnace - these are not that rare. There is flint embedded in the slag which implies it came from the base. I suspect more artefacts will follow in due course but certainly better than the X-box. I suspect not many of us would have the skills to make iron these days!

The area will be tidied up in the coming months, especially the overgrown bramble area in the middle by the bridge. I hope it will also clear the stream for young waders to explore upstream.

I have found it harder to get down there of late and I am looking for a younger helper. It only requires a few hours each month in the summer. I would also like to recruit some planters for the large number of wild plants currently in my garden frame raised from local seed. For example the red valerian which comes from the church yard. We do already have the white variant - it is tough and good for insects - especially the Humming Bird Hawk Moth. The plants are in small pots and easy to put in with a hand drill. I can give instructions on the method of planting. If you can help give me a ring on 351238.

Some wildlife videos captured at five ways are on the parish website.

There are sticklebacks in the stream but skill and stealth is required to catch them. There are also Bullheads which are not seen in daylight and are protected. There have been sightings of otters locally so watch your fishponds. They will exploit the cover provided by streams.

Let me know if you see anything interesting. There have been no new Black Panthers sighted by my reporters but there was a supportive article about them in a recent Sunday Times.

Mike Eaton



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OXFORDSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST ANNUAL RIDE AND STRIDE

This year was always going to be particularly difficult for the event, as the Covid rules around churches have been particularly stringent. But the weather was more than kind, bright and dry with a light wind from the South West. The South Oxfordshire countryside was looking wonderful and its historic church buildings as impressive as ever, but perhaps a little neglected, with many of them not manned this year.

Brian Griffiths may tell you his own tale, but he was batting for us. He repeated a clever wheeze, got the bus to Oxford, unwrapped his Brompton bike and in no time had knocked off 16 churches! On the way there he had already visited the four churches in our United Parish, so he was really to give his sponsors a hammering.

I was very sorry not to have company for my journey, which I have cycled many times with different friends in the village and I found it hard to understand why it seems to take so much longer these days! Anyway, out of the blocks at 10am,

I was soon through Lewknor, South Weston and Adwell and on to the lovely Wheatfield then Stoke Talmage. Slight disaster there, I realised I had left my rucksack at Adwell, so I had to retrace my riding on one of the hilliest sections of the course.

Only slightly daunted, I remounted and set off back to Stoke Talmage and along that top road with views to die for, down then up to Easington, then on down to the Chalgrove Road.

Left towards Cuxham, but couldn't resist a quick diversion to Brightwell Baldwin. Alas the Lord Nelson was not an option, so on to Cuxham then Watlington where three churches can be scored.

Back onto the B4009, never a good experience on a bike,

then off to Pyrton where there was a concert in progress and Shirburn where there was a film being made. More B4009 got me back to Aston Rowant at 1.55 where I felt unable to face the further loop to Chinnor and Sydenham. Sorry about that.

All the while, Jenny Flynn, helped by Rona and Jackie Griffiths, had been welcoming cyclists from other parishes at our church; they had 35 in all, more than in many other years.

Sponsorship was most generously given to Brian, Jenny and myself and I am pleased to say we have raised a total of £1372, compared with £340 last year and our previous highest of £936 in 2013. That money goes to the trust for the benefit of church buildings throughout Oxfordshire, but half comes back directly to our church here, money which is sorely needed for its repair and maintenance.

A big thankyou to everyone involved, organising, participating or most crucially, giving.

Julian Knight



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Sam Hunt

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NOTICEBOARD

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



Litter Pick in Aston Rowant

Sunday 11 October starting at The Lambert Hotel at 10.00am Please phone 07767 647714 if you are able to join us for 2 hours to clear litter from road verges in Aston Rowant. Sorry but no children allowed. Please bring your own gloves and be prepared to social distance. Bags will be provided.

Peter Hetherington

Fiveways Help Needed

I am looking for someone to help with the care and maintenance at Fiveways: it only requires a few hours each month in the summer.

I would also like to recruit some people to help with planting at Fiveways.

If you can help please give me a ring on 351238.

Mike Eaton

Parish Notes Features

Here's a reminder of some of the suggestions for features you'd like to see included in the Parish Notes taken from the recent questionnaire. I need people to write these up for me or let me know about them so I can use them in future issues – especially if you know of any new neighbours:

- Interviews with interesting local residents
- Births, deaths, marriages, anniversaries, celebrations
- Newcomers to the parish
- Local trusted tradespeople
- More on allotment news
- Regular activities in Chinnor

If you have anything you'd like to see in the next issue please get in touch anytime.

The deadline for the December/January issue is 15th November.

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com.

Amend to the bins article on p33 of the August/September issue: the current charge for garden refuse bins is £49 p.a.

THE CHILTERNS CONSERVATION BOARD – SEASON OF CELEBRATION

Get ready for a 'season of celebration' with a packed programme of nature-based events, walks and activities in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty this autumn.

The Chilterns Conservation Board is thrilled to launch a packed programme of nature-based events, walks and activities all designed to inspire families, young people and adults of all ages to discover and enjoy the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Chilterns 'season of celebration' will provide people with the opportunity to connect with nature, improve health and wellbeing, meet new people, find out more about the landscape on their doorstep, learn new skills and help support communities and businesses following the COVID-19 pandemic.

There's plenty on offer throughout October with a fantastic programme of events including the brand-new Chilterns Celebration and the ever-popular Chilterns Walking Festival:

The Chilterns Celebration

- A brand-new festival of events designed to celebrate the Chilterns, bringing communities together and inspiring people to explore and enjoy the heritage and landscape around them
- Running from 1 31 October 2020
- The first ever "Chilterns Champions" conference with special guest speaker Chris Packham

Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, our Chalk, Cherries and Chairs Project team has joined forces with community groups and organisations across the Chilterns to provide a whole month of activities and online resources/events to celebrate the Chilterns. From October 1-31, we will be running events and showcasing those already taking place, to extend the season for local businesses and bring communities together around the heritage and landscape of this region we call home.

We'll be welcoming Chris Packham - naturalist, nature photographer, television presenter and author - as keynote speaker at our first ever 'Chilterns Champions' conference, where we'll be talking about Citizen Science, why it's crucial and how you can get involved. You'll have the chance to explore a brand new heritage trail around the Wycombe Rye, get creative with art workshops as part of 'The Big Draw' on Kingsmead Recreation Ground with Wycombe's very own wildlife champions, the Chiltern Rangers, experience a live-streaming concert and get involved with our packed programme of walks, talks and local produce tastings. The Chilterns Celebration really does have something for everyone.

Find the full schedule of events and details on how to book your place at www. chilternsaonb.org/ccc-fest.

The Chilterns Walking Festival

- Over 50 guided walks in the beautiful Chilterns
- Running from Saturday 17 October Sunday 1 November

Now in its seventh year, the Chilterns Walking Festival has established itself as one of the main contenders in the region's bountiful events calendar. With over 50 guided walks, activities and events, the 16-day Chilterns Walking Festival has been designed to appeal to different age groups, interests and levels of fitness.

The walks provide opportunities to meet countryside rangers, farmers, archaeologists, historians, food producers and storytellers of the Chilterns. Each walk is guided by an experienced walk leader who will bring their story to life.

The Chilterns Conservation Board's People & Society Officer, Annette Venters, said "We are delighted to be offering lots of new walks that showcase the best of our stunning landscapes, wildlife and local producers. The walks will appeal to all ages and abilities. There are still plenty of challenging hikes, but we've included a greater number of shorter walks too, with the emphasis on learning and discovery, meeting the people and producers of the Chilterns, and spending time in our inspirational landscape."

View details and book your walk online at: www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest. Press can contact Annette Venters for further information on aweiss@chilternsaonb.org

The 'season of celebration' will also support the campaign to extend the visitor season from October right through to spring 2021, with a regular programme of events planned to encourage people to support their local pubs, shops and attractions, all whilst staying covid-19 secure.

The Chilterns Conservation Board's Chief Executive, Dr Elaine King, said "The Chilterns is a very special landscape with so much to offer, and we are delighted to be holding this celebration that will help people connect with nature, improve their health and wellbeing and celebrate our local heritage and landscapes."



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LETTER FROM A HEADTEACHER THE JOY OF PLAY

There is a magic about the beginning of autumn. The leaves are turning golden yellow, burnt orange and vibrant red and falling from the trees. Children can be found on the school field or playground chasing the falling leaves, laughing as they flutter in the breeze. No one actually cares if a leaf is caught or not. It was about the joy and connection.

As our school community is reunited following a period of lockdown we are mindful of how we can meet the needs of our children emotionally, physically as well as educationally. While the learning that takes place in the classroom is vital, the learning that takes place outside is also very important. Play initiatives lead to improvements in children's physical and mental health and well-being, and are linked to a range of other cognitive and social developmental benefits.

If you have walked down the footpath to or from the cricket ground recently you may have spotted our new adventure playground, and we are deeply grateful to friends, family and the local community who made this possible. We also have a new mud kitchen to go with our existing mud kitchen, along with our Actival screen, a sensory garden, pond, willow circle and our amazing school field. These all play a vital role in supporting children's development, enhancing their learning, improving their physical fitness and cultivating the all-important resilience and adaptability that help children deal with an ever changing world.

Unlike in a playground with no equipment, where the children can just walk or run about, our school facilities allow children to explore and express themselves. You will be surprised by just how creative children can become. Next time you pass you might find them acting or re-enacting a scene using the role play area, digging soil in the allotments, exploring the willow circle, climbing the new wooden play equipment or simply trying to catch falling leaves. They are immersing themselves in the joy of play whilst learning key skills in challenging times.

Go on...why not see if you can catch a leaf too. It really is great fun!

Mrs Helen France Headteacher, Aston Rowant School

NEWS FROM ARCC

It is now the end of a season like no other and our thanks go to everyone concerned with the club, players, supporters, match officials, team managers, coaches and anyone else I've missed off the list. But special mention of John Little and David Lambert for their fantastic work on the ground. Also, thanks to Rob Holt, Nigel Revill and Mandy Brine for their work on both the bar and covid compliance.

In terms of the bar, unfortunately due to the current restrictions the committee has reluctantly concluded that the bar will close at the end of the season for the winter. If the situation changes, we will reconsider, please look at our website (astonrowantcc. com) for details.

To matters on the field, all 4 of our senior teams had winning seasons in the truncated league programme, congratulations to David Coates and his 3rd team who topped their league, for the 3rd year running.

But for me and many others, this season will be defined by our junior section. The dedication, enthusiasm and talent of the youngsters has been a joy to see. It has reminded so many of us why we love the game and started to play cricket in the first place.

The club fielded teams at Under 9's, U11, U13, U15 and a combined U17/U19 level. All were successful in what seemed an endless series of games. A very large thank you to the parents and grandparents who taxied the players around so much and supported them so well.

At this level it is not all about winning but it is always nice to do so and so we must congratulate the U13's (see photograph) who won their county competition with a win against Henley (always good) and the U17/19's who have reached the semi-finals of their county competition which is now held over until next year.



But we must end by acknowledging the achievements of individuals within the club. Pride of place to James Coles who after making his debut for Oxfordshire and scoring a hundred in his first game, at the age of 16 and 157 days became the youngest ever player for Sussex CC. To hear James batting at the Oval against the bowling of another ex-Aston Rowant player Dan Moriaty will live with me for a long time. James is the grandson of the Aston Rowant stalwart Gordon Eggleston, his family must be so proud. Our best wishes on what we hope will be a great career.

But James is not alone, Leo Bethell and Max Mannering played for Oxfordshire, Robin Pritchard for Buckinghamshire, Kate Brine for Oxfordshire Ladies, Will Hammersley, Elliot Hyman and Anton Eisner are all in the Oxfordshire U17's squad, congratulations to all.

Even then the list of outstanding performances of the young cricketers goes on. During the season for the 3rds Phil Barnett scored 190 against Tiddington 2's and Will Hammersley scored 136 against Chearsley 1st. For the fourth team Jamie Revill scored 160 not out against Stokenchurch 2's and Brett Hounsell scored 101 not out against Bledlow Ridge 2's. The future of the club looks good with these youngsters coming through into the senior teams.

Here's to 2021 and hopefully a return to the new normal whatever that is. Please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Steven Sowerby



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BUSES SERVING ASTON ROWANT PARISH

The 40 bus service started in June 2007 and runs an hourly service from Thame town hall to High Wycombe bus station. This operates on Monday through to Sunday now and calls at Thame, Kings Road, Towersey Village Hall, The Inn at Emmington, Chinnor, Red Lion PH, Chinnor Village Hall, Crowell, Kingston Blount, Aston Village turn, Lewknor village turn, Aston Rowant A40 (at the cross roads with the B4009) Stokenchurch Kings Arms, Stokenchurch Jubilee Road, Studley Green, Piddington, King Street, West Wycombe Swan and High Wycombe bus station.

By the nature of its route along the B4009 to the Lewknor turn and up the A40 at Aston Hill, it opens up links to other routes.

At High Wycombe it links to Chiltern Rail.

At Stokenchurch it links to the National Express 737 service that runs from Oxford, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe, Hemel Hempstead, Luton Airport, Hatfield and Stansted Airport.

The Oxford Bus Companies: Oxford to Heathrow stopping at Lewknor.

At Thame it links up to the Arriva, Aylesbury to Oxford service.

At Chinnor it links up to the Chiltern Rail bus, 320, to Princes Risborough Railway Station.

The Oxford Tube service, London to Oxford/London at Lewknor.

The Red Rose 275 service from Oxford to High Wycombe Monday to Saturday. Serving Chinnor, Aston Rowant and Kingston Blount. It runs along the A40 from High Wycombe to Oxford also stopping at the Lambert Arms, Postcombe, Tetsworth, Milton Common, Wheatley and Oxford.

We are better served as a parish than Chinnor, especially Aston Rowant, as we are nearer, walking distance for some, to the Oxford Tube.

Previous Parish Councils have campaigned hard to get a bus service that travels along the B4009 and as you can see the possibilities of bus travel are now vastly improved. Obviously, as is the case with all rural buses, they have to be heavily subsidised by Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire County Councils SO PLEASE USE IT OTHERWISE WE SHALL LOSE IT.

Contacts: Arriva 0871 200 2233

National Express: 087 05 808080

Red Rose 01 296 399500 Oxford Tube 01 865 7722

Peter Gibbons

Amend to Buses article on page 29 of the Aug/Sept Notes: the National Express route 737 was withdrawn from serving Stokenchurch and High Wycombe and onwards to Stansted Airport from 10th February 2020. It now goes a completely different way from Oxford to Stansted.





I began working in the beauty industry nearly 20 years ago. Most recently in my role as Head of Clinical Training for ABC Lasers delivering onsite clinical training for therapists, nurses, and Doctors alike to operate our devices, ensuring the proper use in line with protocols to achieve safe and effective results. I continue to deliver these courses.

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BUS TIMETABLES

Red Rose Travel Ltd.	PFOO	PF0001493/82					
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Sandhills Turn For Park & Hide)	67.50	67.54	31.04	14.09	11.09		
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TESSA WYATT'S COUNTRYSIDE DIARY

June 21 Those of you who follow my occasional "countryside diary" may remember dear Spooky, a rather "special" wood pigeon who took a long time to grow up. It took him two years to work out the principles of nest building, and even presented me with twigs for my approval. Well, it turns out he's a girl! He came down tonight to eat alongside us while we were having dinner, and the next thing, a strange pigeon flew down and started the old bowing and scraping, twirling and cooing business, next thing I know he's gone all flirty and "can't catch me!" and they've flown off together. I hope she has the courtesy to show me her babies, assuming she gets that far in her new guise!

June 25 9.50pm, new moon, breeze soughing through the sycamores, Tinker giving herself a bath in the chair-that-should-be-John's beside me, bats flitting to and fro overhead. Lovely.

June 29 Please don't feed horses, ponies, or any animal in fields! So called kindness can kill!

July 1 Pretty mauve Mountain Lettuce (in a valley?!) and tiny yellow Ripplewort flowers on the Church Lane bridleway. And the lovely upsie downsie whistle of a chiffchaff. Such a peaceful moment, And relaaax ...

July 8 Meadowsweet along the bank of the stream. Lovely creamy fluffiness. Quite rare these days so thank you to those caretaking Fiveways and the Church Lane bridleway leading to it.

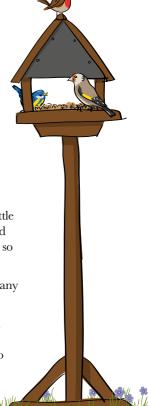
July 9 Tinker went and sat on the bench where I hadn't yet put the cushion down. She looked at me as if to say, So where is it?" "Do you want the cushion?" I asked. "Brrrrmmowah!" She replied. So I went and got it. She immediately sat on it, curled up and began to purr with a tiny "Prreeoo" of thanks. Aww!

16th Aug Bumbles tire easily and can get very dehydrated. A little sugar water in a teaspoon or a saucer will help give an exhausted bumble the energy she needs to keep working. They don't sting, so don't be afraid to pick her up.

Aug 25 Fence down again in the garden. Never known so many gales this summer.

Aug 28 The ground under the bird feeder has sprouted with pretty blue Lewis (prairie) flax and buckwheat which I never knew had such a pretty flower. Must try to save some seeds to grow in my wild patch at the other end of the garden.

Aug 30 So many berries! Guelder rose, hawthorn, rowan, rose-hips, yew, snow peas, and a magnificent crop of lovely red apples. Not all of them in this post



because I don't think they would ever load. This is a bumper year for fruits of all kinds, apart from my poor pear tree that suffered a catastrophic drop in June and hasn't produced a thing. But still, an abundant autumn is ahead, so let's just be happy with that.

Sept 1 Jack, a horse I share with two friends, looks a lot perkier this morning than I feel after nearly three hours on the saddle, up hill, down dale and through the lovely woods on the Nettlebed estate. Lots of low flying branches to duck, so my back as well as my knees is killing me! Worth every minute though, and I found at least three cottages that I would love to own if I had the money! Thank you Jack.

Sept 6 Having found yet another poor dead owl, please remember that there is no such thing as a "safe for raptors" rodent poison. Please let the owls do their job, don't put poison down.

Sept 9 Brill Hill from ARCC today looks close enough to touch - an auger of good weather to come says Jim-next-door, who has lived here most of his life.

Sept 14 Jim was right!

Tessa Wyatt



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DISPOSING OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE

(Other than the usual weekly refuse)

We all know that dumping rubbish in the hedgerows and ditches around the Parish is unsightly, illegal and can be a danger to children, pets and wildlife. It also demonstrates a totally selfish attitude, without thought or care for others. If culprits are identified and convicted in a Magistrates Court they will have a criminal record and can be fined many thousands of pounds.

Bulky household waste such as washing machines, fridges and mattresses etc. can be collected by arrangement with SODC by calling 01235 422406 or online at www. southoxon.gov.uk. There is a charge for up to 3 items. The location of recycling centres is available on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/waste-and-recycling

This is also the phone number to order a garden waste bin, the cost being £49 per year, which is emptied with your recycling bin.

Householders are required by law to check that anyone removing waste from their house or garden is registered with the Environment Agency as a waste carrier. Builders, plumbers, decorators, gardeners and other tradesmen, who remove waste from work they have carried out, should be registered and have a 'Waste Carriers Number'. As the householder you should record this number together with details of the waste removed, the date and the vehicle in which it was carried. If the waste is dumped illegally, and you did not check, you could find yourself in a Magistrates' Court with a criminal record and a fine of up to £5000.

You can check if a tradesman is licensed to remove waste by calling 03708 506506 or online at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/epr/index.asp

Please help to ensure that the picturesque countryside around us remains a source of beauty and pleasure for us all.

Originally written by the late Alan Mayo, updated by P Gibbons and Liz Folley Chinnor Parish Clerk.

Peter Gibbons



If you have anything you'd like to see in the next issue please get in touch anytime. **The deadline for the December/January issue is 15th November.** Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com.