

VOL XXXXXI NO 4

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2024

ASTON ROWANT, KINGSTON BLOUNT & CROWELL

PARISH NOTES



Carol Cross

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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: Francesca Musaeus francesca.musaeus@hotmail.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
Chinnor u3a [Chair]	07711 337243
Village Hall Hire/Bookings: Hayley Hopwood	07470 441857

PARISH NOTES

Please get in touch if you have anything you think we could feature in future issues of the Parish Notes: If you have a new neighbour, or would like to announce any births, marriages or deaths. Maybe you have an interesting story about the area or someone who lives in the area. It would also be great to feature photos and illustrations – I'm always looking for photos to add to the pages! All ideas welcome.

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

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

Copy deadline for the Oct/Nov issue is 20th Sept.

PARISH COUNCIL & LOCAL CONTACTS

Parish Website

www.astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk

Tracy Lambourne
clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353989

Parish Councillors:

Chairman Adam Bernstein
adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07785 905120
Councillor Helen Birks
helen.birks@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07921 840360
Councillor Deborah Chaplin
deborah.chaplin@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 354648
Councillor Matthew Day
matthew.day@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 351300
Councillor Trelawney Hill, Aston Rowant
trelawney.hill@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353051
Councillor Joanne Hunt
joanne.hunt@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07825 789251

District Councillors:

Ali Gordon-Creed ali.gordon-creed@southoxon.gov.uk
Ed Sadler ed.sadler@southoxon.gov.uk 07842 602398

County Councillor

Kate Gregory kate.gregory@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Nigel Champken-Woods nigel.champken-woods@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MP

John Howell 01491 613088 john.howell.mp@parliament.uk

Police Community Support Office

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

Village Hall Hire/Bookings

Hayley Hopwood 07470 441857 bookings@kbvh.org

Play Area

Tracy Lambourne 01844 353989 clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

Aston Rowant Cricket Club Chairman

Josh Smith 07894 201 929 chairman@astonrowantcc.com

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

By now it shouldn't have escaped residents attention that Kingston Blount now has a 20mph speed limit. While it's unknown how and when Thames Valley Police will enforce the new limit, we hope that most – we'll never get all – will stick close to, or drive under, 20mph.

It's true that there are some locations that are better than others for this new lower limit, especially on side roads or near schools, but the parish council considered the B4009 in Kingston Blount a good candidate for a lower speed limit precisely because of the bends and kinks in the road combined with a hill, crossroads and residential housing.

Indeed, many will have seen the roving Speed Indicator Device (SID) that was placed on a temporary basis at the corner of the B4009 and Kingston Hill, adjacent to the offset crossroads that have seen numerous accidents. That SID worked wonders in slowing down traffic exiting the village that previously sped up to get through the chicane – speed that made those joining the B4009 from Kingston Hill and the Stert Road gamble with their safety.

The parish council is negotiating with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) as to the exact location that it will allow for a new pole that will give a SID a permanent home close to that junction. However, OCC is out of funds until April 2025 and the poles cost £1,000 each; we will have to be patient.

Still on the matter of SIDs, I have to report that the parish has suffered thefts related to the roving unit: The batteries were stolen from it while it was placed by Kingston Hill. And the solar panel and charging equipment on its home base in Kingston Stert were also taken. Considering its isolated location it's unlikely that the council will be replacing the panel in that location or even if it'll be replaced at all. But if we do elect to replace it, the solar panel (and SID) will have to be sited in a more populous area to protect the installation.

It should be said that the council has taken steps to secure its SIDs with bigger and more secure padlocks while also marking each with the parish council's initials and postcode to make them less desirable. We're also fitting clasps and locks to make entry to the battery compartments far harder. None of this is ideal, but we have to do something as the losses have cost the council – and therefore residents – the best part of £900.

These SID units are placed to serve and are harmless; they are not there to identify or report - they simply ask drivers to slow down.

Residents who see a SID being interfered with should let the clerk know via clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk or an anonymous note at The Cottage, High Street, Kingston Blount. OX39 4SJ.

In other news, by the time this appears in print, the newly cleaned and revamped play area in Kingston Blount will have been opened in time for the school summer holidays. A lot of hard work from the play area committee has gone into – against all odds – raising tens of thousands of pounds to create something that should last for another twenty plus years or so - with maintenance. Once again, the parish council thanks Laura Purse and the committee for its efforts that shows what 'people-power' can do.

Similarly, the wooden barriers at the Kingston Blount end of the permissive path to Crowell, that the council opened a few years, suffered damage in June when a Red Rose

Bus careened off the road. As we understand it, the brakes on the bus failed.

The cause of the crash aside, we, at the time of writing, are still trying to make contact with the bus company to obtain details of their insurers to recover the cost of the repairs. In the meantime, courtesy of former councillor Peter Hetherington, the Chiltern Society is sending volunteers to repair the damaged posts as soon as time allows. This is another example of individuals giving their time to help the parish and we are grateful.

Lastly, the parish council discussed and agreed to voice opposition to large solar farm being mooted for Lewknor. Running either side of the M40 from Nethercoat Lane to Salt Lane in Postcombe it's a large installation over approximately 83 hectares (206 acres) on agricultural land that will be in situ for around 40 years.

The council is not opposed to the principle of clean energy, but is unhappy about the location, scale, and direct proximity to villagers adjacent to the farm. Put in context, the solar farm is virtually the same size as Aston Rowant from the A40 to Home Farm and from the B4009 to the Ridgeway. For those wishing to learn more about the matter, visit lewknorsolarfarm.co.uk.

Adam Bernstein

Chairman, Aston Rowant Parish Council

adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk



DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE PARISH

PLEASE READ AND KEEP THIS DOCUMENT. IT MAY SAVE A LIFE

According to First Aid for Life, cardiac arrests can affect anyone at any time. It's reckoned that across the UK 30,000 occur outside of hospitals each year and that fewer than 10 percent of those experiencing cardiac arrests in the community survive.

But with fast emergency treatment the chances of survival shoot up by around 80 percent.

CPR – chest compressions that may keep someone alive until emergency help arrives - can double the chances of survival. But when a defibrillator – a device to restart the heart – is used alongside CPR, the odds of survival can jump from around 6 percent to 74 percent. As the British Heart Foundation notes, “after a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR and defibrillation reduces someone’s chance of survival by 10 percent.”

There are four defibrillators around the parish. They're located prominently at **Kingston Blount Village Hall, Aston Rowant Cricket Club, Aston Rowant CE School** and **on the bend by Aston Rowant church**. There's also a unit **inside the Lambert Arms Hotel**. (Note: this unit may not be accessible during unsociable hours; so, depending on when an incident occurs, the hotel may not be the best place to go to).

It is hoped that the parish will soon have another unit for the Cherry Tree area of the parish. When sourced and installed its details will be shared.

A cardiac event, when it happens, will be alarming and stressful. To 'ease' this, there is some basic advice below. Please read and keep it – it may save a life.

CPR

Detail on how to give CPR is at <https://bit.ly/387Ttx6>. The page includes 'how to' videos.

In summary there are five steps.

Step 1: Shake and shout – see if the individual is conscious.

Step 2: Call 999 and ask someone else to find a defibrillator. Call 999 before starting compressions.

Step 3: Give chest compressions.

Step 4: Keep giving CPR until professional help arrives and takes over, or the person starts to show signs of regaining consciousness.

Step 5: Use the defibrillator.

USING A DEFIBRILLATOR

Details on using a defibrillator at <https://bit.ly/3KVE57E>. The page also has a 'how to' video.

The box housing a defibrillator can be opened with an access code given by 999. You will need the location code on the housing. Each unit features pictures on how it should be used and will have voice instructions. In summary:

Step 1: Turn the defibrillator on by pressing the green button and follow its instructions.

Step 2: Peel off the sticky pads and attach them to the patient's skin, one on each side of the chest, as shown in the picture on the defibrillator. Note: On a child pad placing is different and there may be button/switch on the unit that will need to be pressed. See <https://bit.ly/37vmPbK>.

Step 3: Once the pads have been attached, stop CPR, and don't touch the patient. The defibrillator will then analyse the patient's heart rhythm.

Step 4: The defibrillator will assess whether a shock is needed and if so, it will tell you to press the shock button. An automatic defibrillator will shock the patient without prompt. Do not touch the patient while they are being shocked.

Step 5: The defibrillator will tell you when the shock has been delivered and whether you need to continue CPR.

Step 6: Continue with chest compressions and rescue breaths until the patient shows signs of life or the defibrillator tells you to stop so it can analyse the heartbeat again.

PLEASE READ AND KEEP THIS DOCUMENT. IT MAY SAVE A LIFE

Cllr. Adam Bernstein

07785 905120

THE UNITED PARISH TEAM

Rector

Rev'd Dr. Jacky Barr 07769 825305
rector@unitedparish.church
01844 352027

Associate Priest

Rev'd Joan DeVal 01844 353404

Licensed Lay Minister (L.L.M)

Margaret Poole 01844 281042

Retired Priests

Rev'd Des Foote 01844 355945

Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths

01844 355953

Rev'd Tony Whittaker

01844 352472

United Parish Office

Tricia Prescott 01844 352472
office@unitedparish.church

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jane Tucker 07890 346781
safeguarding@unitedparish.church

Churchwarden at Aston Rowant

Richard Boarder 07795681263

Vacancy

Churchwardens at Crowell

Andy Warman 01844351909

Maggs Warman 01844351909

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council meetings were held on Wednesday 12th of June and Wednesday 10th of July where the planning applications detailed below were discussed.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 11th of September.

THERE IS NO MEETING IN AUGUST

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P24/S1444/HH Two-story front extension, two story side/rear extension, single story rear extension, new flat roof over the existing single story elements and material alterations and fenestration alterations to the existing house at Chiltern House, 5 Plowden Park, Aston Rowant. OBJECT on the basis of size, design, materials, effect on neighbours (privacy and loss of light) and street scene.

P24/S1444/HH Amended Plans on above – received 30/May. OBJECT, AS ABOVE

P24/S0725/HH FYI only Amendment No.1 – Little Gables, The Green, Kingston Blount for: additional information received from forestry officer on 13 May 2024.

NOTED.

P24/S1198/LDP FYI only Certificate of Lawful Development for: Erection of Oak-framed outbuilding replacement of existing at Icknield Place, Aston Rowant Road, Aston Rowant. NOTED.

P24/S0885/HH FYI only Amendment No.1 - The Malthouse, Church Lane, Aston Rowant for: Great Crested Newts mitigation and lighting strategy received 31 May 2024. NOTED.

P24/S1317/LB FYI only Amendment No.1 - Ferndale House, High Street, Kingston Blount. Application form received 3 June 2024 omitting roof insulation and re-roofing works; as clarified by updated Heritage statement template received 31 May 2024 and applicant's email dated 03 Jun 24. NOTED.

P24/S0885/HH FYI only Amendment (no. 2), for development work at The Malt House, Church Lane, Aston Rowant. Additional information received 18 June - Thames Valley Archaeological Services. NOTED.

P24/S2065/HH Installation of Air Source Heat Pump at Hillside Cottage, Aston Hill, OX49 5SG. FULLY SUPPORT.

P24/S0885/HH FYI only Amendment (no. 3), for development work at The Malt House, Church Lane, Aston Rowant. Additional information received 28 June - Arboricultural Impact Assessment. NOTED.

P24/S1444/HH Revised floor and roof plans, received 9/July. Two-story front extension, two story side/rear extension, single story rear extension, new flat roof over the existing single story elements and material alterations and fenestration alterations to the existing house at Chiltern House, 5 Plowden Park, Aston Rowant. Insufficient time to consider before the July meeting, although general consensus was that not much had changed. We are seeking an extension in order to consider this further.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS:

None.

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SODC:

P24/S1017/LDP Certificate Of Lawful Use Or Development granted for replacement of existing external windows and doors with uPVC double glazed units at The Old School House, School Lane, Aston Rowant. NOTED.

P24/S0725/HH Replacement shed and new greenhouse at Little Gables, The Green, Kingston Blount. GRANTED (after additional information received from Forestry Officer).

P24/S1198/LDP Certificate of Lawful Development for: Erection of Oak-framed outbuilding replacement of existing at Icknield Place, Aston Rowant Road, Aston Rowant. Certificate GRANTED.

P24/S0945/HH Two storey side extension at Selloana 1A Old Croft Close, Kingston Blount OX39 4RX. REFUSED.

P24/S1317/LB Replace 19 modern soft wood windows with double glazed hard wood windows. Repairs to existing dormer windows at Ferndale House, High Street, Kingston Blount. GRANTED.

P24/S1133/LB Proposed alteration at first floor and insertion of one new window to match existing in rear elevation of the house (Amplified by additional information received 24 May 2024) at Old Croft, Pleck Lane, Kingston Blount. GRANTED.

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

None.

PLANNING INSPECTORATE APPEAL:

P23/S2384/O NOT IN THIS PARISH Appeal: APP/Q3115/W/24/3343775 for refused application on land East of M40 J8a at Waterstock for - construction of up to 12,000 sqm of light industrial units and associated parking offices, roads etc. Comments submitted 1/Jul sustaining our original objection.

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

ARPC FOOTPATH AND AMENITIES GROUP

Writing these notes in the hottest weekend of the year makes me forget the horribly wet weather of the spring, until I realise that I have to now water the garden.

The group has been quiet in the last 2 months but we are planning actions for the summer school holidays. The improvement of the moors path between the cricket club and the school which I referred to in the last notes has been approved by the Parish Council (thank you to them) and will take place in the school holidays. We will keep the path open but please be careful.

The repair to the path at the entrance to Stert Road was also approved at the same meeting.

The main talking point of the last two months has been the damage done to the Permissive Path by a Red Rose bus at the chicane at the entrance into Kingston Blount. If anyone has details of what exactly happened, as opposed to what they have heard, please contact Tracy Lamborne the parish clerk, who is co-ordinating the response to the bus company.

The Chiltern Society, who supplied the original wooden half barrier, have kindly offered to repair/replace the barrier at cost by their group of volunteers. This work will be completed in September and we have already thanked them for their kind offer.

If you are new to the parish, you may not know that the Parish Council has published a booklet called 'Walks at the Foot of the Chilterns' which is free to all newcomers to the parish. If you want one please contact either Tracy or myself. This was updated in 2023 and as well as 4 circular walks around the parish includes a short history of the villages. If anyone wishes to purchase the new updated version, they are available at £3 (which covers the cost of printing) again please contact myself or Tracy and we will get one to you.

In the last edition of the notes, I asked about ideas for siting benches in the parish, can please I ask again as we have had no responses.

Finally, 2 dates to put in your diaries, Sunday 5th Jan 2025 for the annual Parish Walk and Sunday 16th Feb 2025 for the Duck Race.

Steven Sowerby

Chair of Footpaths and Amenities Group

stevensowerby@hotmail.com

01844 351392

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CHINNOR PETS

There are some new flowers to be seen. The blue scabious at the top by the stream inlet has returned, as has the white valerian. By the bench are pink geraniums – I am not sure they are native but I don't have them in my garden and would like to. There are also bright red-orange Fox and Cubs visible from the bench. So plenty to look out for. The Jubilee tree is making good growth again this year and hopefully getting well established.

The yellow Monkey Musk is flowering in a few places. Please do not disturb. The plants by the middle bridge I am hoping will drop seed onto the wet mud. They germinate with extreme vigour and should multiply.

Of special note this year have been sightings of fish which I think are Bullhead or Millers' Thumbs. The sticklebacks have disappeared for now; I suspect the strong winter floods have washed them downstream - but they will return. I pondered how the Bullheads have avoided this fate. The answer may be they are designed as bottom dwellers being flat fish. They also have big pelvic fins so the current forces them down to the stream bed. They are skilled in hiding – especially under stones and undercuts. They are very territorial and if their stone is moved they will find it. We put three fish sanctuaries in the lower part of the stream and it is probably worth putting more in. (Does anyone have any earthenware drain pipe sections?) The males guard the nests in the spring. Bullheads are crepuscular: they spend their days hiding under stones, and venture out at dawn and dusk to hunt for prey. Shrimps are numerous at Fiveways in the rotting vegetation.

Mike Smith and I spent some time chasing the fish with a net to get a photo but they were far too quick for us. We will try again. I caught them as a boy but I did not like their protective spines and their squeaking when caught. I think there are quite a few in there. The best place to see them is in the dog pool by the track but a stealthy approach is mandatory – if disturbed they go for cover under the banks. It is possible to see three at once – until they hide.

We had another visit from the Forest School in July which was enjoyed by all. Magnet fishing produced the haul shown in an hour without any effort. The amount of vintage metal in the Holbrook is remarkable and is supposed to be due to early metal working. There are also lots of nails etc from the cottages. It could be fished all day and not be exhausted. Similarly pottery and glass was unearthed as well as an old shoe which the children loved. I think that the flooding has turned over the river bed and exposed a lot more. The children love wading the stream and finding 'treasure'. They also netted the Dog Pool for shrimps. I did see a fish on arrival but they soon vanished with all the noise.



Mike Eaton

mike.eaton@btopenworld.com



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CROWELL CHURCH

The churchyard and car park garden are slowly being tidied. Slowly because the Wardens are very busy at the moment. Work parties are making a real difference and a couple of families have taken on specific areas. Our thanks to them.

We have rare orchids and grasses in a couple of the wild areas. These are increasing so the no mow and keeping wild areas is working.

Work parties will continue on the 3rd Saturday of each month commencing at 10am, until and including November, missing July and August. Inside and outside tasks are carried out. Anyone who can spare a couple of hours would be most welcome. The drive out is becoming a real problem as the hedge needs really cutting back and is now a priority.

The Rectors Ramble in aid of fund raising for the four churches was a great success but fewer people turned out. All who did the walk had a great time and the weather was kind to us. All completed their specific part of the walk, with several completing the whole walk.

Chinnor Churches Goes Wild, bird and butterfly walk took place on Saturday 22 June. This was reasonably well attended.

The prayer group, started at Easter, is continuing each Tuesday 17:30 at Crowell.

Soul Space continues on the second Sunday of the month at 16:00 for around 45 minutes of music, poetry and reflection.

The organ has been serviced and tuned – it is now in good voice. We have a new organist for one of the two services and additional events such as weddings and funerals.

Parts of the guttering have been repaired and is now working properly.

The Wardens were sworn in for a further year at Dorchester Abbey by Bishop Gavin on Sunday 07 July.

Approval has been given by the PCC to have all the church windows cleaned and the roof cobwebs removed.

Should anyone wish to sponsor any of the repairs or parts thereof, then donations would be gratefully received.

Repair to the damaged stain glass window is now progressing, so watch out for the window being removed for a short period of time. The window area will be boarded to keep it watertight.

The church will always be open when the Wardens are working in it or working in the churchyard. Please call if you would like access for private prayer at other times.

Copies of the United Parish Magazine, which is now every other month rather than monthly, are available in the church porch and inside the church. If anyone would like an e-copy of the United Parish Magazine and/or the weekly on-line service booklet then please e-mail the parish office at office@unitedparish.church

Please note the change to the administrators e-mail address.

Andy & Maggs Warman

(Church Wardens) 01844 351909 themwarmans@btinternet.com

NOTICEBOARD

WHAT'S GOING ON IN KINGSTON BLOUNT, ASTON ROWANT & NEARBY

Parish Walk

Sadly I only had one parishioner on my Parish Walk on the 7th July – and six other Ramblers – but the parishioner was grateful to see areas of the parish and new footpaths it made it all worthwhile! And the weather wasn't that great but the sun did come out and we dried out before the end.

Our next Parish walk will be the ever popular New Year Walk. It will be on Sunday 5th January at 10am – from the Lambert Hotel. Please put that date in your diaries!

Peter Hetherington

07767 647714

Friday Coffee Mornings

Kingston Blount Village Hall

Come and enjoy a hot drink and a cake or snack! Everyone is welcome of all ages and we have plenty of toys available for young children.

We will be open for business from
10.15am – 12pm on:

August 2, 16, 30th

September 13, 27th

October 11, 25th

Browse the bookshelf – feel free to take as many as you like and maybe bring some of your own to donate.



Shine Dance and Pilates

Shine Dance and Pilates is running a brand new Pilates class for beginners on Wednesdays at Kingston Blount Village Hall 10.00-11.00am starting Wednesday 4th September. Booking is essential.

Contact Holly to secure your place on the new course.

shine-holly@hotmail.com

07834 994699

Tower Tours and Cream Teas

On Sunday 14th July Aston Rowant Church was open and cream teas were served while the bell ringers explained the workings of the bells and escorted visitors up the narrow spiral stairs to visit the clock chamber and the bell chamber. It was a fun event and a sum of £200 was raised from donations.

Clock Repairs at Aston Rowant Church

As stated in previous magazines the clock has been undergoing repair work as one of the large gear wheels was badly worn. This gear wheel was sent off to the engineers who were repairing Big Ben in Westminster and due to Big Ben being considered more important than the Aston Clock there was a considerable delay!

In June the wheel was returned, now in “as new” condition and the clock was reassembled, lubricated and set going. All was well until we found that it was losing over a minute per day, so after two weeks it was over twenty minutes slow.

This is a pendulum clock, and if you remember your O-level physics to make a pendulum swing faster you need to shorten it. This can be done by adding weight to the top of the pendulum – weight which effectively raises the centre of gravity of the pendulum and so shortening it. We did this by adding a horseshoe onto the top of the pendulum weight.

The clock now looks as if its time keeping is ok. Fine tuning will be done by adding pennies to the pendulum weights; as was done on Big Ben

The clock was built in 1875 and we think this was its first major repair so we now look forward to another 150 years satisfactory time keeping.

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The Village Hall needs a new treasurer and if the answer to the above is yes to both please contact Rachel Lockwood on rachellockwood.hillwerktrust@gmail.com

Rachel is standing down in June 2025 and we need a new treasurer in place by then. So there is plenty of time to shadow her and learn the dark arts of a Village Hall treasurer.



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NEWS FROM ARCC

Firstly, thank you to all the parishioners who attended Rowachella and made it such an enjoyable and successful event. The support and involvement from the parish is very important to the club.

Here is a report on a first for the club, my thanks to Claire North for her report. *On Sunday 30th June, ARCC ladies represented the Club at a ladies' softball tournament at Wormsley Estate organised by Bucks Cricket, along with 11 other local teams, to play our first official matches...*

Our first group match was against High Wycombe. We were put in to bat and put on an impressive 59 runs and did not lose a wicket. High Wycombe pushed hard and ended up the eventual winners by 8 runs.

Next up was Stewkley. We opted to field first this time and Stewkley batted well, giving us a reasonable target to chase down. ARCC batted well and we managed to beat them by 1 run.

We finished second in our group stage and this meant we got to play another match - this time against Chenies and Latimer. We again opted to field first, with some great fielding and batting from everyone, we brought to game to a tie from a magnificent 4 off the last ball.

So that gave us one loss, one win and one draw for our first experience of cricket as a team.

We are looking to continue training over the coming weeks and plans are ongoing to arrange another couple of friendly matches.

A couple of noteworthy events have happened recently:

On Sunday 14th July four members of our current first team played for Oxfordshire against Cheshire at Thame, congratulations to Hayden, Tristan, Luke and Max – a huge plus for the club.

On Sat 20th July the new pavilion on the bottom field was used for the first time, it is not yet finished but it is useable and is a massive addition to the club.

Please look out for the club spraying the top field with its annual weed treatment, if the weather has remained dry it should be complete by the time the Notes are published. We will put up notices but please be careful with both children and especially dogs.

We are now halfway through the cricket season and so far, it has been a mixed season. The first team are unlikely to win their league but hopefully will finish in the top four to qualify for the National Cup. The second team are having a difficult season and have struggled with both injuries and unavailability and will hope to improve in the second half of the season.

The newly promoted third team are settling into mid table in division 3 and the fourth team are involved in a promotion race in division 7. Both of these teams are playing the first and second teams of other clubs.

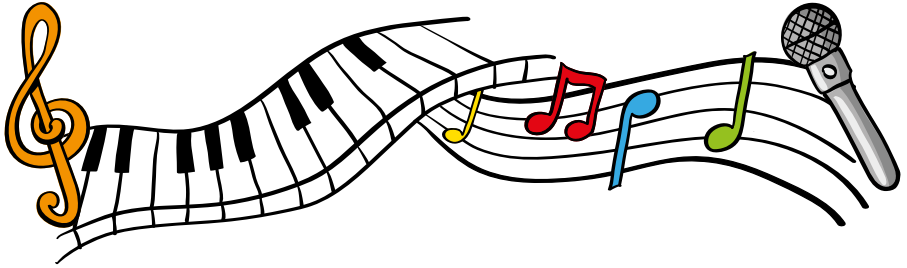
Hopefully the good weather will continue and we have a good rest of the summer.

Steven Sowerby

Aston Rowant CC

www.astonrowantcc.com

LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER



I wonder what role music plays in your life? At Aston Rowant School we believe that music education is not just an ‘optional extra’ or something just for after school or at weekends. Music is at the heart of our school and also links us to our wider community.

Learning about music and having the opportunity to play musical instruments and make music together is a vital part of a rich and rounded education. It is part of the National Curriculum from the age of 5 to 14, and we teach it in a carefully planned, sequenced way just like we do Maths, English or Science. Pupils are supported in their musical progression from Year 1 – where they are introduced to beat, rhythm and pitch to the end of KS2, where pupils will be introduced to more technical aspects of music. In both Key Stage 1 and 2, children listen to a variety of music styles and sounds to broaden their musical horizons and encourage them to be open minded about the music they listen to.

We recently had a Music Enrichment Week. This included an inter-house day, attending various workshops in their houses to build their understanding of the different musical elements. The children explored texture and dynamics the children listened to music and responded through artwork, based on the story ‘I See a Song’ by Eric Carle. The children also learnt about timbre by exploring the different sounds they could make with junk modelling and creating their own instruments. There was an exciting African drumming workshop to develop the children’s understanding of beat and rhythm and the children learnt a wide range of songs and games involving movement and dance. Each class received a performance workshop to developing their warm up skills, breathing techniques, posture and expression. They learnt a challenging song with two-part harmonies and learnt the chorus in British sign language. We had various pop-up concerts from various staff members and parents and our own young but incredibly talented instrumentalists and vocalists were given the opportunity to put on a class recital for their peers, which they performed with confidence and did themselves very proud. We were also delighted to welcome Chloe Rooke, Assistant Conductor at the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, to school. Finally, the whole school gathered to learn some fun warm up songs and how to perform a perpetual canon. A great time was had by all!

We also enjoy performing. This summer our incredible KS2 children put on an incredible outdoor production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream. We are also

privileged to have links with Garsington Opera who regularly come into school to run workshops with UKS2. This year an incredible 13 of our children were successful and were offered a place to join Garsington Opera Youth Company to perform 'A Trip to the Moon' on the Garsington Opera stage this summer. I took the plunge myself and auditioned for the adult company and will be singing alongside them as a moon person!

We are delighted to say that Oxfordshire County Music Service have recently granted Aston Rowant School Music Mark School status. They have recognised the value that we place on music and celebrated all the hard work of the staff team to ensure that our pupils are able to access a high-quality, diverse and inclusive music education stating, 'Your dedication to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum is both welcomed and celebrated.'

That is definitely something to sing about!

Helen France

Headteacher

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ASTON ROWANT BELLRINGING

Our bells have definitely not been quiet during the last few months even though I have not sent in any news about our ringing or other activities

We held our AGM in May and planned the social calendar for 2024/25

No weddings have been booked at the church so far or any visiting ringers

We rang to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the D Day landings which was very special, we hope that our ringing was a small tribute to all the soldiers who took part. Kay Batholomew led the team of 7 ringers which included Shirley Smith.

Our summer party was hosted by Robert and Tricia Newton, we were so lucky with the weather as we were able to be outside in their lovely garden

The cream teas and tower tours went well, hopefully that will inspire some of the visitors to come along to our practice nights to have a go - we meet every Tuesday from 7.30 - 9pm

A ringing outing is planned for September, ringing at 3 towers and a Pub lunch!

We are pleased to be able to ring for Sunday services, nearly always with 6 bells, with help from the Newtons before they drive off to ring at High Wycombe

The early time of an 8.30am start means no lie-in on Sundays!

Our practice nights have been well attended with ringers from other towers coming to learn more advanced methods under the excellent guidance of Robert, Tricia and Kay

Please contact Robert Newton to learn more about the ringing at Aston Rowant you will be made very welcome. It is an incredibly fulfilling hobby and service to the community, there is more to it than just ringing.

Wendy Hawkins

Robert Newton

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CHURCH SERVICES

AUGUST

- 4 8am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky.
9am St Peter And St Paul's, Aston Rowant – Morning Prayer, Margaret.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky and Joan.
6pm St Andrew's, Chinnor – Taizé, Tony and Monica.
- 11 9am Aston Rowant – Holy Communion, Jacky and Brian.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – All Age Worship, Margaret.
10.30am St Mary's, Sydenham – BCP Holy Communion, Tony.
6pm BVM, Crowell – Holy Communion, Jacky.
- 18 9am Aston Rowant – Morning Prayer, Tessa and Jo.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky.
6pm St Mary's, Sydenham – BCP Evensong, Joan.
- 25 9am Aston Rowant – Holy Communion, Des.
10.30am Community Service at White's Field
6pm BVM, Crowell – BCP Evening Prayer, Tony.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 8am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky.
9am Aston Rowant – Morning Prayer, Joan.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky.
6pm St Andrew's, Chinnor – Taizé, Tony and Monica.
- 8 9am Aston Rowant – Holy Communion, Brian and Des.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – All Age Worship, Margaret.
10.30am St Mary's, Sydenham – BCP Holy Communion, Jacky.
6pm BVM, Crowell – Harvest Supper, Jacky.
- 15 9am Aston Rowant – Harvest Festival, Brian, Richard and Pam
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Jacky.
- 22 9am Aston Rowant – Holy Communion, Jacky.
10.30am St Andrew's, Chinnor – Holy Communion, Tony.
10.30am St Mary's, Sydenham – Harvest Festival, Joan
6pm BVM, Crowell – BCP Evening Prayer, Jacky.
- 29 10.30am United Parish Service Harvest Festival with the Methodists

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

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

Copy deadline for the Oct/Nov issue is 20th Sept.

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