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PARISH NOTES



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CONTENTS

KB Village Hall	4
Useful Phone Numbers	5
Chairman's Note	6
Your Village Hall Needs You!	7
Parish Council & Local Contacts	8
Aston Rowant Parish Council Notes	9
The United Parish Team Contacts	10
Church Services	10
A Decade of Dedication: A Heartfelt Thank You to Andrea	11
News from ARCC	13
Fiveways	15
Rector's Ramble	16
ARPC Footpath and Amenities Group	17
Noticeboard	19
Letter from the Headteacher	20
Aston Rowant School House Educational Trust	22
Poor's Hillock Gardens	23
Repair Cafe	24
Crowell Church	25
Rector's Ramble	26
St Andrew's Flower and Crafts Festival	36

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

Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

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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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With special thanks to our team of distributors, for their continuing hard work.



(Hillwerke Recreational Trust Reg Charity No. 279656)

Charges for Hire – Effective 1st April 2024

For Residents of the Parish of Aston Rowant

Monday–Sunday & Bank Holidays

Main Hall (8am–midnight)	£15.00 per hour
Committee Room only	£8.50 per hour
Whole Day Hire (8am–11pm)	£210.00

For Non-Residents of the Parish of Aston Rowant

Monday–Sunday & Bank Holidays

Main Hall (8am–midnight)	£16.00 per hour
Committee Room only	£9.50 per hour
Whole Day Hire (8am–11pm)	£225.00

Bar Licence (if required) will incur an additional charge of £20

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where you will also find a full description of the facilities we can
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Wednesdays: 10am-11am
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June 5th & 19th
July 3rd & 17th

www.kbvh.org

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/Enquiries	07470 441857

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Anonymous complaints

Last year I received two letters, on behalf of the council, that were sent anonymously with regard to a resident's hedge that needed cutting back to the edge of the highway. The resident was rightly upset to hear about complaints being made anonymously but cut the hedge back regardless. Being anonymous the complainants couldn't be communicated with either before the cutting or after to confirm that the work had been done.

More recently, I received notification of a complaint to OCC about a fire at a local farm with the complaint being made in my name using my home address. I was perplexed since I hadn't made the complaint; it was only on reading OCC's acknowledgement that it became apparent that the complainer wanted to stay anonymous.

I understand their desire to remain private but found it very discourteous that they used my name and address without my being asked.

As it turned out, OCC couldn't do anything with the complaint as I had my details disassociated with the matter, making it a 'non-complaint' since there was no complainer.

Going forward, if a resident has a matter they want to raise officially, the correct protocol is to email the clerk - Tracy Lambourne, via clerk@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk. And if they wish to be anonymous, ask for their details to be kept private.

The council, as a matter of policy, will ignore all anonymous communications.

New defibrillator

I am pleased to say that the parish is soon to get another defibrillator, this time placed on the wall of the Cherry Tree.

Defibrillators are currently located inside the Lambert Arms (privately owned), on a wall on the bend by the church in Aston Rowant (parish owned), on Aston Rowant school (privately owned), on the cricket club main building (privately owned), and on the village hall (parish owned). There is nothing on the south side of the B4009 in Kingston Blount making dealing with a medical emergency in that area almost impossible to handle given the traffic on the road and the distance to other defibrillators.

As a reminder, it's reckoned that across the UK 30,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of hospitals each year and that fewer than 10 percent of those experiencing cardiac arrests in the community survive.

When a defibrillator – a device to restart the heart – is used alongside CPR (chest compressions that may keep someone alive until emergency help arrives) the odds of survival can jump from around 6 percent to 74 percent.

There is more detail on performing CPR and using a defibrillator in a note from two years ago posted to the parish council website. See <https://tinyurl.com/46t5s98z>.

It's taken time to get the defibrillator as the parish council needed to get the written agreement of the owners of the building to affix a cabinet and to find the funding for a unit and cabinet that together cost in excess of £1500.

The council is grateful to our district councillors, Ed Sadler and Ali Gordon-Creed, who each gave the parish £400 from their 'pots' of Councillor Grant scheme funding. Their combined £800 will be supplemented by parish funds. We are also grateful to the Cherry Tree for allowing the installation of the defibrillator and supplying the power to the cabinet.

Bins

With bank holidays altering collection dates, it's no wonder that residents occasionally put bins out on the wrong day. To help, SODC has a new BinDays app to help determine which bins need to go out on which day. The app takes account of bank holidays. It's at <https://tinyurl.com/yzxf2az>.

SODC has also refreshed and relaunched its Binfluencer WhatsApp Channel. Navigate to <https://tinyurl.com/v8tpy2kb> to join and receive updates about collection changes, recycling tips etc. SODC says that those who followed the previous channel will need to follow the new one to keep receiving updates.

Adam Bernstein

Chairman, Aston Rowant Parish Council
adam.bernstein@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk

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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 Steve Bain
steve.bain@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07578 142342
Councillor Deborah Chaplin
deborah.chaplin@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 354648
Councillor Matthew Day
matthew.day@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 351300
Councillor Hayley Hopwood
hayley.hopwood@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07515 774871
Councillor Trelawney Hill
trelawney.hill@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 01844 353051
Councillor Richard Payling
richard.payling@astonrowantparishcouncil.gov.uk 07801 764019

District Councillors:

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

County Councillor

Georgina Heritage georgina.heritage@oxfordshire.co.uk

MP

Freddie van Mierlo freddie.vanmierlo.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

James Robinson
chairman@astonrowantcricket.co.uk 07786 393954

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council meetings were held on Wednesday 8th April 2026 and Wednesday 13th May 2026 where the planning applications detailed below were discussed.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 10th June.

IMPORTANT

Since our last report, SODC's new planning portal went live on 23/April.

If you were previously registered to comment, or receive notifications, all existing accounts on the old system have been de-registered and you will need to re-register. To help navigate the new system, sodc have supplied a variety of helpful support resources, now available on their website.

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/uncategorised/important-changes-to-planning-and-land-charging-services/>

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

P26/S0846/HH (Retrospective) Installation of two air-conditioning units to side elevation at: Orchard House, High Street, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SJ.

It was resolved to OBJECT on the following grounds:

- Application is retrospective – units already installed.
- Causing noise nuisance to neighbours.
- In a Conservation Area, overhanging a Public Right of Way.

Noise is amplified within the alley-way and units are only approx. one metre away from neighbours (single-glazed) bedroom window.

P26/S1041/HH Single Storey infill extension, garage conversion, first floor extension and alterations at Chiltern Cottage, The Green, Kingston Blount.

It was resolved to OBJECT on the grounds that it was considered to be an over-development of a property in a conservation area and after receiving concerns from neighbours as to available parking if garage is re-purposed.

WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS: None.

PLANNING DECISIONS OF SODC:

P26/S0219/HH To convert a conservatory to a garden store at:

The Old Vicarage, The Green, Aston Rowant, OX49 5ST. GRANTED

P26/S0567/TPO Removal of dangerous & diseased cedar tree (T22 of TPO: 09S60) at 11 Aston Park, Aston Rowant. GRANTED with replacement conditions.

PLANNING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

None.

APPLICATIONS IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES (which may affect Aston Rowant Parish) None.

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

THE UNITED PARISH TEAM

Rector to the United Parish

Rev’d Dr. Jacky Barr 07769 825305
 rector@unitedparish.church

Our other ministers

Margaret Poole (LLM) 01844 281042
 The Rev’d Tony Whitaker 01844 761267

Parish Administrator

Mrs Tricia Prescott phone 01844 352472
 or office@unitedparish.church
 The Parish Office is at St Andrew’s church in Chinnor and is usually open for in-person enquiries Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 13:30-15:30

Churchwardens

Aston Rowant
 Richard Boarder 07795 681263
Crowell
 Andy and Maggie Warman
 01844 351909

Sydenham
 Roy Harrison 01844 353887
St Andrew’s, Chinnor
 Lauretta Milligan 01844 355290
 and Robert Pegg 01844 698109

OUR USUAL SERVICE PATTERN

ASTON ROWANT	ST ANDREW’S CHINNOR	CROWELL	SYDENHAM
Every Sunday 09:00	Every Sunday 10:30	2nd and 4th Sundays 16:00 GMT 18:00 BST	2nd Sun 10:30 3rd Sun 18:00
2nd and 4th Sundays are Holy Communion	Holy Communion except 2nd Sunday is All Age Worship First Sunday: 08:00 H.C 18:00 Taize	2nd Sunday Holy Communion 4th Sunday Evening Prayer	2nd Sunday BCP Holy Communion 3rd Sunday BCP Evensong
5th Sunday one United Parish service held, 10:30. Church tbc.			

A DECADE OF DEDICATION: A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO ANDREA

Andrea has been a dedicated member of the Hillwerke Recreation Trust for over ten years, serving both as Booking Clerk and, for many years, as Chair. Throughout that time, Andrea has given an extraordinary amount of time, care and energy to the Committee and its facilities, always going above and beyond for the benefit of the whole community.

Her commitment, hard work and willingness to step in whenever needed have played a huge part in keeping these community facilities thriving and at the heart of village life. Much of what happens behind the scenes often goes unseen, but her contribution over the years has been truly invaluable.

Alongside the general running of the hall—which has at times included everything from unblocking toilets to ensuring all health and safety checks are completed—Andrea has overseen and supported a wide range of improvements to the hall itself. These have included the replacement of the village hall floor, installing the new fence, troughs and bollards, internal and external decoration works, and the replacement of several windows. In addition, she has supported wider Parish Council projects, including the playground refurbishment, and played a key role in updating the lease agreement, helping to ensure a strong foundation for the long-term management of the facilities.

Beyond these larger projects, Andrea has consistently gone above and beyond in the day-to-day running of the hall—checking the building, liaising with hirers, maintaining strong community relationships, responding to issues and queries, and quietly resolving the many small challenges that arise in the background. In truth, there are many tasks and acts of care that rarely come to light, but which have made a significant difference to how the facilities are run and experienced by users. She has also brought humour, warmth and good spirit to the Committee, helping to make it an enjoyable and collaborative group to be part of, with moments ranging from meeting the Queen during the Jubilee celebrations to the rather therapeutic task of replacing the curtain linings, where she clearly took great satisfaction in stripping out the old ones.

During Andrea's time as Chair, she also helped steer the Committee through wider changes, including the loss of the long-standing Montessori nursery booking and the transition that followed, helping to build a broader client base. She also successfully



guided the Trust through the challenges of the Covid period, ensuring that vital grants were secured to protect the Trust during a particularly uncertain time.

On behalf of the Committee and the wider community, sincere thanks are extended to Andrea for everything she has contributed over so many years as she now steps down from the Committee. Her dedication and support have made a lasting difference and she will be very much missed by the Committee.

The Hillwerke Recreation Trust is now seeking a new Chair, and welcomes anyone interested in volunteering to support the continued running and development of this important community asset. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us: kbvhbookingclerk@outlook.com or 07470 441857.

What's On this

June/July



Waterperry
Gardens

CONCERT: 6th June – JUBILEE BRASS BAND (AMPHITHEATRE)

EVENT: 7th June – RARE PLANT FAIR

FREE EXHIBITION: (until 28th June)– MODERN MAKERS, GALLERY

EVENT: 12th-14th June – HANDMADE OXFORD

COURSE: 19th June – HERBACEOUS BORDERS (OLD & NEW)

THEATRE: 28th June – OHELLO, ON THE LAWN

CONCERT: 4th July – DUO DESTINO (AMPHITHEATRE)

EVENT: 10th-12th July – CELEBRATING CERAMICS

SUMMER HOLIDAYS ORIENTEERING TRAIL:
(11th July until 6th Sept)

FREE EXHIBITION: (11th July-6th Sept) – A BRIGHTER VIEW, GALLERY

CONCERT: 26th July – MOONRAKERS (AMPHITHEATRE)

OPEN DAILY 10:00AM - 5:30PM

Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1JZ | 01844 339254 | www.waterperrygardens.co.uk



NEWS FROM ARCC

The cricket season is now in full swing. It has been a mixed start for the senior teams. The first team have lost the first two games. They lost by 1 wicket to Slough when they still think they should have won. The second game they were on the wrong side of the rain showers which affected the area and suffered a narrow defeat.

In contrast both the second and third teams are unbeaten and are at the top of their respective leagues at this early start to the season. The fourth team have won one and lost one of their games. All the results are impressive in part due to the impact the young cricketers are making to the club. The second team beat Didcot first team with 8 players under the age of 20. The depth of the youngsters coming through is the envy of many clubs in the county. The full scorecards and results of all the club matches both junior and senior teams can be viewed by going to the astonrowant.play-cricket.com website.

You can see the next generations of juniors training by coming to the club on a Friday night – this age range is from six-year-olds in the All-Star Scheme, which is co-ordinated by the ECB, up to seventeen-year-olds. With a drink and BBQ it is a nice way to start the weekend. All are welcome to come to the bar – if you decide to do so on a regular basis you can join the club as a social member – this is available at the bar or on the club's website astonrowantcricket.com.

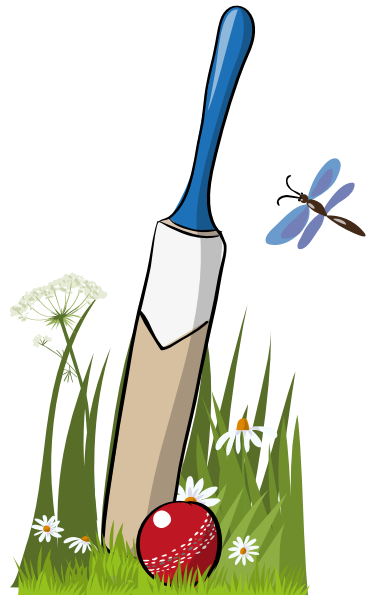
The main event in June however will be the Electric Hills Festival on the 20th June, which is the main fundraiser for the club. Tickets are still on sale at the time of writing, but they are selling well. They can be bought via the electric hills website, electrichills.co.uk which has much more information about the event.

One other date to note is an MCC XI playing an Aston Rowant XI on 19th July.

Steven Sowerby

www.astonrowantcc.com

07802 814625





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We look forward to seeing you

Opening Hours

Monday - 8am till 1pm

Tuesday to Friday - 8am till 5pm

Saturday - 8am till 2pm

Sunday - Closed

I am pleased to report that the woodpeckers are back in the dead Black Poplar – a picture is on the Parish Council website. You can't miss the pile of wood chippings below the tree! Talking of Black Poplars - some of the female cuttings that Kui took some months ago look like they may be rooted near the bottom of Fiveways, in the stream by the young oak. The cuttings were taken with special equipment from very high up in the female Poplar! I will be looking for homes for them in the parish if successful. They need really wet roots and room to grow – be mindful that they drop fluffy white seeds in the spring. They are magnificent trees and much painted by Constable. It is likely these are genetically very early and free of foreign DNA from imported Poplars. If a landowner has a wet spot for one, perhaps they could get in touch with me – there is interest from outside the parish. Nothing can be done until the autumn in any case. I am still looking for a tree warden to identify our larger and rarer trees.

The wild flowers have been good, although the Wood Anemones looked weak this year. I think the Bluebells looked stronger but there are sadly some Spanish ones in there as well. Recently, we have had the white Greater Stitchwort, Fritillaries (really good this year), yellow Marsh Marigold (much commented on), Wild Garlic, Green Alkanet, and Red Champion, to name a few. I think the yellow Monkey Musk is there, but too early to be sure. I am hoping it will seed this year which will ensure its survival. Watch out for the Ox Eyed Daisies from now on.

A working party recently planted two hundred Tenby Lilies (Daffodils) in the green, these will complement the large number that we already have. In time they will drop seed like the current ones, and we can have a Daffodil Sunday. .

Sadly no fish have been seen by me since March 3rd. I will reinstate the clay pipes, which act as fish sanctuaries.



Greater stitchwort
– seed from Cumbria



Green Alkanet – seed from
Lewknor recreation ground

Water voles have been reported downstream of Lewknor brook, where the alien Mink have been removed, but my wildlife camera has seen nothing very exciting (as yet) in our area.

Our longer term plan is to take out tree seedlings, as we do not need more trees, and to strategically remove some of the older less valuable/diseased trees, to let in more light to help the wild flowers. If left, the area would end up like the overgrown tree area to the side of Church Lane – but it is good for wildlife. When funds allow we hope to open up again the wild area downstream of the central bridge to the bench. It is currently covered by dead branches, debris etc.

As many of you will know I have not been able to do as much at Fiveways and so I am still looking for helpers who could spare a few hours each year.

Mike Eaton

mike.eaton@btopenworld.com

Rector's Ramble
Saturday
4th July 2026



Do join us for the annual Pilgrimage around our beautiful parish churches.

Meet us at any of the churches to cheer us on or join the walk for any (or all) of the sections.

TIMINGS

Gather at St Andrew's 10am
Arrive at Crowell 1045am: Leave Crowell 11am
Arrive at Aston Rowant noon:
Lunch noon til 1pm: Leave Aston Rowant 1pm
Arrive Sydenham 215pm Leave Sydenham 245pm
Arrive St Andrews 4pm

(Timings are approximate depending on the weather and legs!)

This is an event to have fun and enjoy time together, while raising money for the United Parish.
We invite you to make a donation, if you can.



(We will have a support vehicle following us, in case of any difficulties)

ARPC FOOTPATH AND AMENITIES GROUP

What a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend, the parish looks wonderful in the sunny weather – I hope you were all able to enjoy it.

Can I start by thanking the people who came on the Parish Walk on April 19th, it was good to meet the walkers especially the newcomers to the Parish, our thanks to Peter Hetherington for organising and leading the walk.

We have pencilled in the 21st Feb 2027 for the Duck Race, hopefully the weather will be better than this year – the 200 daffodils which were planted this year should make for a good show.

Following the recent meeting on May 18th, the major project for this autumn will be the clearing and replanting of the lanes in Kingston Blount, this is the second part of the project following the removal of the overhanging branches done last year. We will contact all the parishioners whose properties back onto the lanes and invite them to a meeting to make sure their comments are taken into account.

Following this meeting, we will clear the lanes removing the elders, hazels and other fast-growing plants and then replace with native low shrubs which should mean that no-one has to suffer from their windows having light blocked.

We are also planning this summer to replace the broken noticeboard at the church at Aston Rowant – the one with the map of the parish which has now fallen apart.

Finally, could we express our thanks to Callum Lambert who has been working on his Duke of Edinburgh award by working with Mike Eaton at Fiveways, his work has made a significant difference and we are very grateful.

Steven Sowerby

Chair of Footpaths and Amenities Group
stevensowerby@hotmail.com 07802 81425.





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- **Steam Gala** – Visiting locos
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- **Senior Specials**
- **Restaurant Car** – Cream Teas
- **Santa Steam Specials**

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NOTICEBOARD

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

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

Kingston Blount Village Hall.

All welcome!

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

June 5th & 19th

July 3rd & 17th

Come and enjoy a hot drink and a cake or snack.
Browse the bookshelf, feel free to select as
many as you like.
Bring some new ones along to add to the
collection.



PARISH WALK

We were delighted with a turnout of 20 for our 4 mile parish walk in April. I think we might continue with that length of walk for future occasions. Or maybe the better weather helped to attract more of you. We haven't had much luck with the weather in recent years for our January New Year walks so we are thinking of doing an Autumn walk instead this year. Please could Parish Notes readers let me know what they would prefer?

Peter Hetherington

rphetherington@aol.com

PARISH NOTES

PLEASE do get in touch if you have anything you think might be of interest for future issues of the Parish Notes. Email: sallyparishnotes@gmail.com

Copy deadline for the Aug/Sept issue is 20th July 2026

LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Investing in Our Children, Preserving Our Legacy

Aston Rowant School has always been more than a collection of buildings. Since it first opened its doors in 1844 as a National Mixed School, built on land given by Sir Henry Lambert, Lord of the Manor, it has stood as a testament to this village's long held belief in the value of education and community. Over the past 180 years, the school has evolved carefully and thoughtfully: enlarged in 1891, reorganised as a Junior School in 1931, becoming a Controlled Church of England School in 1951, and most recently, in 2024, an Aided Church of England School. Each step has enabled us to continue investing in children - not just for today, but for generations to come.

That sense of stewardship has guided the careful improvements made over the past year. Last summer saw the hall roof replaced and insulated, a new perimeter fence installed, and the Reception outdoor area resurfaced, significantly improving learning and play for our youngest pupils. This Easter, further essential work took place: classrooms were re clad, replacing rotten soffits and facias, roofs were insulated and re tiled, and internal ceilings with energy efficient lighting were installed. These upgrades were not cosmetic; they were about safeguarding the school fabric and reducing our environmental footprint while improving conditions for learning.

Our next ambition is both simple and significant: a school library.

At present, Aston Rowant School does not have a dedicated library space. Instead, we do our best with a small corridor outside the Headteacher's office. While books are cherished and enjoyed, the space is limited, not close to classrooms, and only suitable for one or two children at a time. A library would transform this experience - creating a quiet, welcoming place where children can immerse themselves in stories, discover new knowledge, and develop a lifelong love of reading.

This year, the Government has launched the National Year of Reading, shining a spotlight on something we are already deeply passionate about. At Aston Rowant, reading is at the heart of everything we do. It underpins our curriculum, supports children's wellbeing, opens doors to imagination and understanding, and is one of the most powerful tools we can give a child for future success. A dedicated library would allow us to nurture this love properly - through class visits, reading groups, and calm, inspiring moments with books.

Finding the right place for such a space on our site has not been straightforward. Our beautiful field is protected by covenants, and tree preservation restrictions have ruled out areas tucked behind classrooms. After much careful consideration, we are proposing to build on a small brown field area currently occupied by two sheds - structures that are themselves reaching the end of their life and in need of replacement.

We are proposing to work with The New Garden Room Company, whose values align closely with our own. Their buildings are eco friendly, sustainable and flexible, with a strong commitment to minimising environmental impact. Materials are fully recyclable, the composite used is FSC certified, made from recycled eucalyptus wood

flour and recycled plastic, creating no new plastic at all. Crucially, the base system avoids traditional concrete: instead, a weight bearing, no concrete suspended base using a recyclable grid filled with local stone. This means no large concrete lorries, no pumps, and no vast slabs of impermeable concrete - a consideration we know matters deeply to many in the village.



Funding for the library is being led by our incredible PTA, whose energy and commitment continue to amaze us. This project represents not just a building, but a shared investment in children, literacy, and the future of our community.

We understand concerns about change and disruption, and we are committed to listening and working openly with the local community. Our hope is that this project will be seen not as an intrusion, but as the next careful chapter in a long, proud history - one that continues to place children, learning and sustainability at its heart.

Thank you, as always, for your interest, your care for this village, and your continued support of its school.

Helen France

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

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Worried about space or experience? Allotments come in a range of sizes, and even a small plot can produce an impressive harvest. Whatever the season, there's always time to begin your growing journey.

If you've ever thought about joining our allotment community, now is the perfect time. We welcome new members and can provide details on available plots.

Contact: Francesca.musaeus@hotmail.com



Illustration by Christopher Stockley



Don't throw it away!



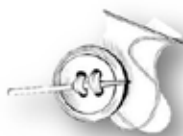
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Church Rd, Chinnor OX39 4PQ
Saturday 11th July 2026
10:00am - 1:00pm
Last item accepted at 12:30 pm

Repairs are free but please give a cash donation to cover costs.

Any extra will go towards the care and maintenance of St Andrew's Church. We can only accept cash.

For more information email: greeningchinnor@gmail.com or call 07973 78839

Evening services continue at 18:00 on 2nd and 4th Sunday each month. Please see noticeboards for any changes.

Soul Space is now three times per year. The next is on 19th July.



The Rector's

Ramble is scheduled for 4th July (see p16). A walk to all churches in the Parish starting at Chinnor then Crowell then Aston Rowant for lunch then onto Sydenham and back to Chinnor. Sponsorship would be gratefully accepted, raising funds.

Sydenham church have a concert on that evening at 19:00.

St Andrew's Flower Festival is planned for 6th and 7th June (see p36).

The Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM) took place as scheduled. The Wardens for all four churches were re-elected. A write-up of the APCM and first PCC meeting will be published in the June Parish Magazine and on the Parish website.

The carpark drive out view hopefully will be fixed by the time this magazine is published.

The churchyard will be mown now that the weather is more favourable. Our volunteers have already started. Wardens will be working around the churchyard and to tidy the carpark garden. If the weather holds, our last day of work will have been Saturday 23 May.

We are planning to get many of the outstanding jobs done over the next few months and have been requested to reinstate the work parties by the Rector. We were reluctant to continue with them because very few volunteers turned up – except the Wardens – for the last 2 years. Let's try again please: if you can spare some time on the 4th Saturday of the month – June until October, 10:00 to 12:00 (or beyond if you have the time and the job needs finishing).

Outstanding jobs for which help or sponsorship/donations would be gratefully accepted.

1. Fit a protective screen to the East stained glass window. (Quote being obtained)
2. 2 x churchyard walls rebuilt and or removed. (progressing to DAC for faculties and advice now obtained from contractor and architect)
3. Bell Cote and Bell restored. (Some sponsorship already received and further now generously received, progressing to DAC for a Faculty).
4. South West Buttress wall base rebuilt. (Quote received, progressing to DAC for Faculty and PCC approval).

5. Clear out gutters repair any damaged down pipes. (Quote now received and awaiting PCC approval)
6. Replace Altar furniture and linen. (some sponsorship already received)
7. Remove dead trees on B4009 bank and replant with native species. (Quote now received and awaiting PCC approval)
8. Remove weeds and nettles from B4009 bank and plant with bulbs and flowers
9. Add gravel to the carpark entrance to smooth surface. (Rain stopped progress).
10. Replace the electric cable to the flood light and install new solar lights to replace the vandalised ones.

In church matters, things are always slow due to the process we have to follow. Church Building Regulations and Listed Building Regulations.

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 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

Andy & Maggs Warman

(Church Wardens) 01844 351909 themwarmans@btinternet.com

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Contact Rev'd Jacky for more information on 07759 825 305 or by email rector@unitedparish.church

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Matthew 5:4





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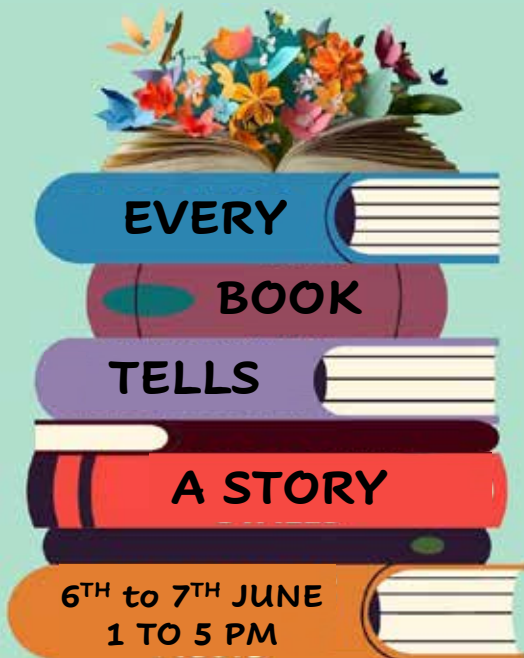
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