

# Steeple Aston *Life*

JANUARY 2020

ISSUE No. 557



**Question:**  
Could this be the last SAL ever?



**Answer:**  
Yes - without an Editor our village magazine cannot survive. Someone needs to step forward urgently - can you help, or do you know anyone who can? Turn to page 6 for your next steps - PLEASE!

**Inside SAL this month:**

- Steeple's favourite magazine under threat
  - Appeal for Editor unsuccessful
  - Plus much more.....

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## Steeple Aston *Life*

### COPY

All articles and letters to the Editor

**Heather Sherkunov**  
[editor@salife.co.uk](mailto:editor@salife.co.uk)

### COPY DEADLINES

The copy deadline for SAL has now changed to the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The copy deadline for the February 2020 issue is therefore 15<sup>th</sup> January.

### ADVERTS

All adverts, and all advertising queries (*availability, prices, dimensions, suitability of illustrations, etc.*) to **Charlotte Bartlett**  
[salife.advertising@gmail.com](mailto:salife.advertising@gmail.com)

01869 347347

### ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Please note: there is a new deadline for adverts (black & white only), which should be submitted no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Non-commercial adverts:

1 page (village events only)- £15

½ page - £12, ¼ page- £6.

Commercial adverts:

½ page- £15, ¼ page- £8

# Steeple Aston Directory

Age UK		Richard Preston	340512
Allotments (Church)	Enquiries	Stuart Walton	347300
Angling Club		Antony Morley	tonyriver_83@hotmail.com
Archive (SAVA)	Chairman	Martin Lipson	347046
Badminton (Tuesday mornings)		Barbara Brewer	340423
Badminton (Thursday evenings)		Lydia Powell	347746
Beekeepers (Swarm collection, advice)		Anna Allen, Paul Honigmann	340160, 340665
Bell ringers		Graham & Dorothy Clifton	347273
Hand-bell ringers		Sally Cooper	347173
Brownies		Fiona McLoone	340132
Catholic Church - St Teresa's (Charlbury)		Father Tony Joyce	01608 642703
Cherwell District Council	Bodicote House		01295 227001
Choral Society	Chair	Ann Livings	233518
Church of England (St Peter & St Paul)	Rector	Rev Marcus Green	340903
	Church Wardens	Eileen Baglin-Jones	340099,C15
Methodist Church – Tackley		Rev Paul Carter	01865 243216
	Steward	Tim Bailey	01869 331516
Councillors - Cherwell District Council		Cllr Mike Kerford-Byrnes	07805 665393
		Cllr Bryn Williams	07836 271998
		Cllr Hugo Brown	
Cricket Club	Chairman	Peter Higgins	347493
Crimestoppers			0800 555111
Deddington Guides		Marian Trinder	340806, 07786001641
Deddington Health Centre	Appointments		338611
	Repeat Prescriptions	10am - 3pm	338847
	Out of Hours		111
Dr Radcliffe's C of E School	Headmistress	Frances Brown	340204
Football Club	Secretary	Peter Wild	07950 837773
Garden Club	Chairman	Richard Preston	340512
Golf Society	Chairman	Alan Brewer	340423
Horticultural Society	Show Secretary	Vicky Clifton	07817 025948
Meals on Wheels		Hanny Nicholson, Judith Lane	340823, 349052
Players	Secretary	Alan Wightman (07943 537909)	324875
Parish Council	Chairman / Clerk	Richard MacAndrew/ Cathy Fleet	347209, 347000
Police	24hr Call Centre	(non emergency)	101
Post Office & Harris Stores		Raj	340201
Pre-school			340863
Public House	Red Lion	Aidan & Kegan Madden	340225
Robinson's Close	Letting Agent	Katie Rushworth	340196
Scouts Group		Colin Cassford	243038
Sports & Recreation Centre	Letting Agent	Katie Rushworth	340196
Steeple Aston Walking Group		Anna Allen	340160
Toddler Group		Charlotte Clarke	07799 030490
Valentine Club		Richard & Daphne Preston	340512
Village Hall (see advertisement)	Letting Agent	Katie Rushworth	340196
Village Website	www.steepleaston.org.uk	Editor: Jenny Bell	347714
Volunteer Connect - Community transport scheme			0300 3030125
Women's Institute	President	Linda Needle	340028



“...folly is not always folly.”  
Jane Austen

## Steeple Aston *Life*

January 2020  
Issue No. 557

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# Editorial

A very happy New Year to all the Steeple Aston Life readers. I hope that 2020 is a healthy and prosperous year for you. You will notice from our front cover this month, we are in need of a new Editor for the magazine as I have now left the village.

Although I have enjoyed editing the magazine immensely it is only right that someone (or a team of people) who lives in the village takes on the role. Thank you to all those people who have been in touch with kind words about our departure from the village and about my work on the magazine. I can highly recommend becoming the Editor, particularly if you want to get out and meet more people. Turn to page 6 now to find out how you can get involved.

In this month's edition we have Graham Clifton in our Steeple People feature, a tribute to George Ennis on page 5 - George was one of the founders of SAL - and a way to have good mental health this New Year on page 21.

To send me feedback on the magazine, or to ask any questions about the Editor position, email [editor@salife.co.uk](mailto:editor@salife.co.uk).

With very best wishes for the New Year,

*Heather*

## Steeple Aston Noticeboard



### Josephine Meddings 1951 - 2019

Jo only moved to Steeple Aston a few years ago, but quickly made friends and joined in many village activities and events. A keen gardener, she was especially proud to take part in the National Garden Scheme Open Gardens in 2018 and 2019. Jo suffered a major stroke in November and passed away peacefully at the John Radcliffe Hospital. Heartfelt thanks for all the expressions of sympathy. Jo will be greatly missed by Robert, her family and all her friends.



### Reminder re copy and advertising deadline

A reminder that the deadline for sending in copy and adverts for Steeple Aston Life magazine is now the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please see page 1 for more information.

How many residents of Steeple Aston can say that the contents of their house were once worth an absolute fortune? Such, it turns out, was the case with The Grange in the years leading up to the outbreak of the Second World War.

Arthur Edward Bradshaw ('Moses' to his friends) had been born into the highly successful and wealthy Truman brewing family (his mother being a Truman). In the 1920s and 30s Moses and his brothers were directors of the company, and by 1935 the dividends were flowing in. In that year, Moses, on one of his regular trips from Steeple Aston to London, visited Wartski, the famous jewellers just off Regent Street. He was intrigued by a collection of exquisite miniature figures carved in various precious stones that had just emerged from Russia. They were understood to have been created for the Imperial family by a certain Fabergé. Bradshaw's first purchase, in 1935, was of 87 carved animals – a veritable menagerie – costing £7,777, a very large sum of money indeed in those times.



*A rabbit, and the basket of lilies of the valley (made of gold, nephrite, pearls and diamonds)*

According to Geoffrey Munn's history of the jewellers ("Wartski - The First One Hundred and Fifty Years") Arthur Edward Bradshaw was "the most enthusiastic and possibly the greatest thematic collector ever to have been attracted to Wartski. Between 1935 and his premature death in 1939 he assembled a collection that was splendid both in quantity and quality."

An inventory of the Bradshaw collection drawn up in 1938 listed 265 carved stone and silver animals, 158 enamelled and gemset boxes, 23 flower studies, 52 miscellaneous jewels, eggs, coffee sets, clocks and icons. There were also 41 wine-tasting vessels, dishes, cups, bowls, trays and brushes, 16 scent bottles and powder jars, 22 miniatures and frames, 27 seals, paper knives and blotters and 18 pieces of porcelain and glass from Wartski's Russian collection. Bradshaw also owned 245 pieces of sundry goldsmith's work, 19 pieces of antique silver, and 50 pieces of Oriental jade. Among the masterpieces were the Coronation Coach Egg, the Bay Tree Egg, the Coronation Box, the basket of lilies of the valley, and the cornflower study with the jewelled bee. Each of the eggs is worth over £10m today.

Moses bought at the lowest ebb of fashion, at a fraction of the original selling price at Fabergé. Sadly, when he died, the entire collection (except for a small number of lesser items that remained in the family) was sold to pay a huge liability for inheritance tax. Distinguished collectors, including members of the Royal family, then reaped the benefits. One photograph exists of a cabinet in a room at The Grange, full of barely visible treasures. Alas, it is long gone.

## George Ennis

**M**y Dad, George Ennis, passed away in the early hours of December 9<sup>th</sup>. We moved to Steeple Aston late 1967 when Dad accepted the position of Headmaster at Dr Radcliffe's C of E school. Dad was born in London on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1936. His childhood was split between Old Windsor and Alloa in Scotland when he was evacuated to an Aunt and Uncle north of the border and developed a strong Scottish accent as a boy. As an army cadet he stood in the honor guard for the funeral of King George VI and went on to reach the rank of second Lieutenant in the army and served much time in, then, West Germany. Following national service, he went to college for education and after various teaching posts was offered the headship in Steeple Aston.

Dad's teaching philosophy was very much based on spending time outside and using all the senses to learn. Anyone reading this, that might have been a pupil during Dad's time, might remember the sheep at the school and the resultant learning from their care and use of the wool. He was never happier than when he was outside teaching children. During his tenure at Steeple he was selected, as one of a few Oxfordshire Head Teachers, to join Penn State University near Philadelphia as guest lecturers. They taught degree coursework on British education styles and techniques to local teachers studying for their Masters degrees in education. He did this for many summers and to this day our family still have friends in the US from those trips.



Steeple Aston was very important to the Ennis family. My Mum, Mary, passed away several years ago. She was involved in starting a play group in the village hall. So, Duncan and I went to Playgroup with Mum and then graduated to primary school with Dad! Mum regularly participated in village drama and I certainly seem to recall Gilbert and Sullivan performances in the village as well as ringing around the house. Both were active in the church.

As you read this, I am very proud that Dad was part of the team that initiated "Steeple Aston Life". He was fully aware that it is still delivered to all households and is now available online. After Steeple Aston, Dad moved to Hardwick School in Banbury as the first Headmaster of the brand-new school. Following retirement, he continued his passion as a lecturer in education at Oxford Brookes University helping develop trainee teachers.

Village life remained very important to him in Great Bourton. He was very active in the church, served on the parish council, managed the village hall and the burial ground where he is now laid to rest. All the while he was a committed husband and father (and Grandfather as of 2005), of most note devoted to loving care for Mum for several years before she passed away. He leaves my brother and I behind. Duncan and his partner Paul live in Manchester. I live in Connecticut with my wife Sue and the granddaughters he adored, Kristi 14 and Kelli 13.

**Bruce Ennis**

# Become the Editor of Steeple Aston *Life*

*Are you looking for a new interest?  
Would you like to be more involved with village life?*

*SAL is urgently looking for a person,  
or a team of people,  
to edit the award winning magazine.*

The voluntary job involves:

- Writing/compiling articles
- Working with the designers on content
- Managing articles and photos which are sent in
- Liaising with the advertising manager
- Page planning
- Taking photos, if you wish, to go with the copy
- Proofreading

*The job does not involve preparing layouts, dealing with advertisers, issuing invoices, distribution and delivery as members of the committee handle these areas.*

**If you would like more information, please contact Heather Sherkunov, on [editor@salife.co.uk](mailto:editor@salife.co.uk).**



# The ARTS Page



Happy New Year! Thank you to Mary and Sue for two interesting reviews sent in this month which you can read below - keep them coming (plus your PREviews) to make the ARTS Page as wide ranging as possible.

## **PREview: An Art Gallery in Milton Keynes?**

*Yes - and well worth a visit. MK Gallery is in the centre of Milton Keynes where the current exhibition is called George Stubbs 'all done from nature'. It's a wonderful show with many of Stubbs' celebrated paintings of horses and also some of the first credible paintings of 'exotic' animals in Western art, including a rhinoceros and a fantastic picture of the first cheetah brought to London in 1764. Stubbs' justly famous life size painting of the stallion Whistlejacket is on loan from the National Gallery and the Royal Veterinary College has loaned the skeleton of Eclipse 'the greatest ever racehorse' - he won every race he ran! And there's the added bonus of an excellent cafe and shop. The exhibition continues until 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020.*

**Mary Williams**

## **REview**

*I joined the Oxford Rock Choir in January this year, encouraged by a work colleague who also wanted to see what it was like. On a dark January Wednesday evening we ventured forth for a free 'taster session' at The Oxford Choir at Cheney School. We were welcomed by the lovely 'Rockie Prefects' who gave us a leaflet telling us all about the Choir and how it was formed and some song sheets for the songs we were going to be singing that evening. We were nervous to start off with but soon got into the singing of 'Roar' and 'Africa'. As a Rock Choir member, you can participate in their 'mystery coach trips' where they perform 'flash mobs' in places like shopping centres, hospitals and supermarkets etc or you can just go once a week and enjoy the singing. I personally have only participated in one 'flash mob' and that was at the 'Proms in the Park' in September in Hyde Park in London, which was a great experience having the Rock Choir leaders singing on the big stage and the Rock Choir members scattered in the audience ready to reveal their Rock Choir t-shirts and burst into song at the appropriate moment! The Choir Leader for Oxford also covers Abingdon, Didcot and Wantage areas. <https://www.rockchoir.com/>*

**Sue King**

Here are some more websites that may be of interest, please also send in your choices.

- [themillartscentre.co.uk](http://themillartscentre.co.uk) - a wonderfully wide ranging Arts venue.
- Two Performing Arts organisations with particular interest for children: [woapa.co.uk](http://woapa.co.uk) - West Oxfordshire Academy of Performing Arts (Witney) - acting, singing for all ages. [pqacademy.com](http://pqacademy.com) - The Pauline Quirke Academy of Performing Arts - with three centres locally - Banbury, Bicester and Oxford, offering tuition in Comedy and Drama, Musical Theatre and Film & Television for children up to 18.
- [oxonabox.co.uk](http://oxonabox.co.uk) - a new Oxford Food and Entertainment website, to add to the existing very informative [dailyinfo.co.uk](http://dailyinfo.co.uk)
- In the year celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, Oxford Bach Choir, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, Missa Solemnis, [oxfordbachchoir.org](http://oxfordbachchoir.org)
- Two wonderful venues in Oxford and a suggestion at each: [jdp.sthildas.ox.ac.uk](http://jdp.sthildas.ox.ac.uk) - Jacqueline Du Pre Hall at St Hilda's, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm. The wonderful James Gilchrist - Tenor with Anna Tilbrook. [sje-oxford.org](http://sje-oxford.org) - St John the Evangelist, Iffley Road, International Piano Series from January 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup>.
- For Early Music enthusiasts - Keble Early Music Festival, February 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> including the Bach St John Passion on the 29<sup>th</sup>. [keble.ox.ac.uk](http://keble.ox.ac.uk)
- Two theatre shows at Chippy and Oxford, following four previous recommendations, all of which were terrific - [chippingnortontheatre.com](http://chippingnortontheatre.com) - Chipping Norton Theatre, Jeeves and Wooster - February 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. [oxfordplayhouse.com](http://oxfordplayhouse.com). Educating Rita - February 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please continue to add your REviews, PREviews and suggestions to make the ARTS Page as eclectic as possible.

**Heather and Nick Cleobury**



## Graham Clifton

**How long have you lived in Middle Aston?**

43 years.

**Where did you move from?**

Great Tew.

**What brought you here?**

Married Dorothy who already lived here.

**What do you like best about living in Middle Aston?**

Small community, quiet, no street lights.

**How has the village changed?**

Middle Aston has doubled in size since I moved here.

**Give a potted history of yourself.**

I like to think I am someone who gives more to the community than takes away from it. I have been tower captain for over 25 years, member of the PCC, have served on the Horticultural Soc. Committee, Village Hall committee.

**How do others see you?**

Calm, organising, competent?

**What do your family find annoying about you?**

That all broken motors and machines seem to just work as soon as I touch them.

**What was your first job?**

At the age of ten I got a job on a farm picking up stones, worked on farms while still at school. First full time job agricultural engineer.

**What do you do for a living now?**

Restore church bells.

**What was the best job you you've ever done?**

Rehanging and augmenting Steeple Aston bells.

**What is the worst job you've ever done?**

Getting in the back of a combine harvester to repair it and coming face-to-face with a rat.

**What's your secret pleasure?**

Chocolate biscuits hidden in my van, no secret anymore!

**Tell us about any interesting hobbies you have?**

Vintage tractor ploughing both competing and judging.

**What's your favourite piece of music?**

Any good military march, (Liberty Bell by J P Sousa).

**What would you save from a house fire?**

Dog and wife.

**If you became Prime Minister what law would you pass?**

Have a five day weekend.

**If you won the lottery what's the first thing you would buy?**

Another tractor, plough and shed.

**If you travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

Tour the UK by narrowboat.

**What do you get grumpy about?**

People being late.

**What makes you happiest in the world?**

Conducting someone's first peal.

**Tell something about you that most people don't know?**

I am on standby should anything go wrong with Westminster Abbey bells. They must be available at anytime in case a member of the royal family dies.

**Tell us a joke.**

My wife and I recently bought a water bed but we had to get rid of it as we started drifting apart.



# Editor's Letterbox

Dear Editor

I have been caught out. I got a fact wrong and I explained an issue inadequately with the result that my comments were misinterpreted. First the factual mistake. In the December SAL I said that the possible development on South Side, roughly opposite the Red Lion, would not be refused planning permission on the grounds that it was outside the village 'envelope' (though this is always only one element of any planning decision). When the Mid Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan was sent round for comments initially the possible South Side development plot was inside the 'envelope'. I had not realised that subsequently Cherwell District Council had asked for it to be removed, hence my mistake.

Roderick Nicholson castigated me for implying that planting trees was a 'weak approach' to meeting the challenge of climate change. I should have put in a paragraph break to show that the 'weak approach' comment was in relation to Cherwell checking on the climate change implications of its policies, and had nothing to do with trees. I think Cherwell should be planting lots of trees and 30,000 I see as only a small first step. I think it should also be developing other new policies specifically aimed at controlling global warming. Our District Councillor did not mention any other new policies, hence my comment on weak approach and tongue in cheek conclusion that I hoped 'he was just being unduly precise'.

Perhaps your readers will come to a Parish Council meeting and see for themselves what they think about my reporting.

*Steeplejack* (also known as Julia Whybrew)

## Mobile phone reception in Steeple Aston

The Parish Council has been in touch with mobile phone companies recently in an effort to get an improved service in the village. The companies insist that reception in the village is fine. We feel that one way of assessing whether this is true or not would be to gather information from people living in different parts of the village to see what the situation really is. If you would like to add to our data collection, please email the Parish Clerk, Cathy Fleet, ([parishclerk.steepleaston@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerk.steepleaston@gmail.com)) or call her on 01869 347000 with the following information:

**Address:**

**Mobile phone company:**

**Reception:**

An example response would be

**Address:** My House, Northside

**Mobile phone company:** EE

**Reception:** weak intermittent reception in my garden; weak reception upstairs; no reception downstairs

Thank you.

**The Parish Council**

# VICTORIA PRENTIS MP

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

## Meet Victoria:

Victoria holds regular surgeries for constituents in supermarkets and her office, and visits pubs across North Oxfordshire as part of her Pub Tour. Please check the website or call Victoria's office for more information about upcoming dates.



WORKING HARD FOR NORTH OXFORDSHIRE ALL YEAR ROUND

## Victoria Online:



@victoriaprentis



@victoria\_prentis



/victoriaprentis

[www.victoriaprentis.com](http://www.victoriaprentis.com)

## Contact Victoria:

### Constituency:

☎ 01869 233685  
📍 Orchard House  
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📍 House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

[victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk)



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We grow delicious organic vegetables and deliver them, freshly picked, to a collection point in this area



To try one of our vegetable boxes, or to find out more,

Please contact us at

**NORTH ASTON ORGANICS**

The Bakery Office, North Aston, OX25 5HX

Telephone: 01869 347702 Email: northastonorganics@gmail.com

[www.northastonorganics.co.uk](http://www.northastonorganics.co.uk)



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## The Arty Crafty Place

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Come and visit our studio in Middle Aston where we are running a variety of fabulous arty workshops. Learn the art of Indian block printing, lampshade making, pottery and loads more.

Our studio is also available for private workshops, birthday and hen parties, W.I. and art groups.

Open weekdays 10am - 4pm, visitors welcome. Workshops run on weekdays, weekends and evenings.

#### Visit Us

9 Hatch End Old Poultry Farm, Fir Lane, Middle Aston, OX25 5QL

Call us on: 01869 349020

[www.theartycraftyplace.co.uk](http://www.theartycraftyplace.co.uk)





## **Thank you!**

Thanks to the ‘unwanted’ objects donated by so many people from the village (and beyond), we have raised an initial **£1500** which can now be used for local community projects.

## **Your help**

We’d love your ideas on how we might start to put the funds we raise to good use locally. Some ideas that have already been shared with us include:

- \* Setting up a Library of Things
- \* Organising regular upcycling/repair workshops
- \* Wider greening initiatives – tree planting, bat/bee/bird boxes, wilding...

Please email [amanda@sustainablesteeple.com](mailto:amanda@sustainablesteeple.com) or call on 07793 553150

We’d also love you to keep donating! Old cotton/linen bedding, fabric remnants and wooden items are particularly upcyclable!

## **What next?**

Aside from continuing to trade at local markets, selling upcycled items via various sites and actively applying for wider funding, we are in the process of setting up regular monthly ‘**Crafternoon Tea**’ sessions – more info coming soon!

**[www.sustainablesteeple.com](http://www.sustainablesteeple.com)**



## **Making your money work for people and the planet**

There was a time when my father contributed to SAL and the magazine is somewhat of an institution in our household so maybe it's not such a surprise that I am writing something for it.

Until four months ago I didn't understand just how desperate the climate emergency has become. Dad and I dutifully and proudly fill up our blue recycling bin to the brim and only put out our general waste bin once a month. Sometimes not even then. With some persuasion, as it makes his weekly trip to Sainsbury's considerably lengthier, Dad has started to buy wherever possible organic products, unpackaged vegetables and plant based toiletries and cleaning stuffs. It has been a challenge for him but one he has risen to admirably.

Doing one's bit at home is a great start but taking that in to the work place is a completely different matter. For over 35 years I have been a financial adviser. An interesting choice of career considering I studied French at Warwick. Actually, though, not a choice as I fell into it at a time when finding a job was hard - too many graduates applying for too few jobs. I discovered, however, to friends' and family's amazement that I really enjoyed it and was good at it. Building long term relationships with clients and helping them find financial security is hugely rewarding. Many of my clients have been with me for over 30 years and have become dear friends.

A big part of being a financial planner is recommending which funds a client should invest their money in. Be it through their ISAs, pension funds, general savings or unit trusts the recommendations have always been to choose funds that offer good consistent returns that beat inflation but give no thought as to where the money is invested. It is only recently that I have started to take a serious look at exactly where client money goes. Many of the big investment companies, that you may have heard of, Invesco, Fidelity, Schroders, JP Morgan, Blackrock are still investing most of their money into mining, tobacco, arms and big banks who in themselves are doing the same thing. Promising high levels of growth with no thought about the harm they are doing to the planet and the people on it.

When the full force of this realisation hit me, I had an immediate crisis of confidence. Could I could stay in financial services and carry on recommending and working with these fund managers. Thankfully, conversations with a couple of good friends and clients led me to find a renewed purpose in what I do - to educate clients about the growing availability of ethical and sustainable investment funds.

Governments are being terrifyingly slow, not just at supporting responsible and ethical businesses, but at withdrawing financial support from 'dirty' businesses. Mainly because they get such a large payback from the latter.

We need to carry on the fight to make governments take notice but in the meantime we as investors, by changing the way we invest, can have an enormous effect on which businesses are supported and funded. For instance, if one percent of assets under management in the City of London were invested in Africa this would equate to more than double the global aid it receives. Although the results are not being tannoyed from number 10, a recent government survey found that over 70% of people want their investments to avoid harm and achieve good for the planet and people and around 50% would switch their work and personal pensions into ethical funds if they could. Well they can.

**Joanna Coull**

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Book at [www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)

19:30-21:00 (Drop-in)

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## Happy New Year

The onset of New Year's Day is traditionally a time for resolutions, however, it can end up more like managing a rearguard action against an overwhelming foe.  
(n.b. any resemblance to a real person is coincidental)

I looked at myself in the mirror  
some magic's at work I do swear  
my pate it has taken to balding  
(but my ears are now covered in hair!)  
my nostrils where once you could see up  
look more like the floor of the woods  
and where I once had a magnificent chest  
there's two fatty lumps and two buds  
I don't think my view is distorted  
there's no point descending in rage  
I need to get some of this sorted  
to fight back the process of age  
So, cutting out cakes and the biscuits

and culling the hair with a trimmer  
will help with my overall profile  
(at least it will make me look thinner).  
However, the wizard who's done this  
that Old Father Time in the rhymes  
seems fully determined to shape me  
so I can't keep up with the times  
Some hope is at hand compensating  
relief from alack and alas  
the smallest reward I will take it  
as this year I will get my Bus Pass.

**Peter Wild**

---

## Quilting Guilt

Once I had retired  
and gave up feeling guilt  
at 'wasting time' on hobbies,  
I made a patchwork quilt.

I had thought that quilting  
Would recycle and reuse  
Old remnants, rags, and clothes  
in all their varied hues.

Frayed towels and pillowcases,  
A faded summer frock,  
Pairs of old school trousers,  
My decorating smock.

Some old flanelette pyjamas,  
A very threadbare shirt,  
A dress I can't fit into,  
- and likewise a skirt.

These odds and ends would find new life  
In my great recycling project.  
But very soon I realised  
That this was not the object.

So, following the pattern,  
I went and bought a batch  
Of co-ordinating materials  
In colours that all match.

Metres of new fabric  
In complementary shades of blue.  
It seemed that my old remnants  
Really would not do.

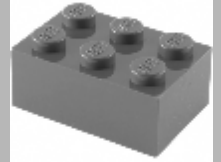
I stocked up on equipment:  
A cutting board, a cutter,  
Needles, gloves, a special lamp,  
I fast accumulated clutter!

I went on several courses,  
Willing to learn, and keen.  
I replaced my hand-cranked Singer  
With a modern new machine.

And after all this, I can boast  
I've made two quilts myself  
That are much more 'individual'  
Than ones bought off the shelf.

It stopped me getting bored  
And I learnt a brand new skill.  
But my long-suffering debit card  
Is still reeling from the bill!

**Cathy Lawday**



## A New Year Quiz for 2020

1. What do the Scots call New Year's Eve?
2. When do we sing Auld Lang Syne?
3. What do Italians wear on New Year's Eve to bring them luck?
4. According to the Chinese, 2019 was the Year of the Pig. What is 2020?
5. 2020 is a Leap Year, so we get an extra day. What's the date?
6. 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 is special - it can go backwards as well as forwards. How?
7. In 2020, why will there be a Bank Holiday on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May?
8. Where will the Summer Olympics take place in 2020?
9. What was the name of the ship that took the Pilgrim Fathers to America 400 years ago in 1620?
10. Who was the famous nurse known as the Lady with the Lamp who was born 200 years ago in 1820?
11. In 2020, Steeple Aston Choral Society will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of a famous German who continued to compose great music even after he went deaf. Who was he?
12. A new £20 note will be issued on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020. A picture of the artist JMW Turner will be on one side. Who will be on the other?
13. What game is played in a Twenty20 match?
14. What does 20/20 vision mean?

*Answers on page 26*



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## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

The new landlords, Aidan and Kegan Madden, welcome you to come and taste the new and evolving menu.

Pizzas and take-away  
Restaurant food from 6pm  
Local ales and a cosy atmosphere

## **A Highways update from the Parish Council**

The Parish Council is very aware that there are currently two significant issues with the roads in the village: one on The Beeches, the other on North Side, both involving surface water. We would like to assure villagers that we are doing everything possible to badger the appropriate authorities into recognising their responsibilities and resolving these problems. We have been in discussion with Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department for most of the year regarding the Beeches. The North Side situation arose more recently but we have already been in contact with both OCC Highways and Thames Water. We are currently waiting for updates from Highways.

The considerable amount of surface water in both places will make them very dangerous when temperatures drop below zero. If there is ice, please take great care when using these roads, perhaps even avoid them altogether. We know that some people already drive to Rousham Bridge via Sixtyfoot and Hopcroft's Holt in order to avoid the Beeches.

On the subject of potholes generally, we have had some success in getting them promptly filled, and we continue to monitor the situation on a regular basis.

**Steeple Aston Parish Council**



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# ???? Mind Games

1. On each row, place a three letter word that will link the two given words (e.g. COW - BOY - FRIEND). When completed, the initial letters of the added words will give a type of animal reading downwards. What is it?

UNDER    \_\_\_    ABOUT  
 END        \_\_\_    RING  
 LAY        \_\_\_    GOING  
 HOMES     \_\_\_    GENTLY  
 TORN       \_\_\_    RATION  
 SPARE     \_\_\_    BED  
 BULL       \_\_\_    HOUSE

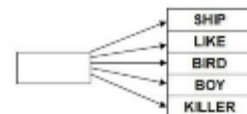
2. On each row, place a five letter word that will link the two given words (e.g. LUNCH - BREAK - THROUGH). When completed, the fourth letters of the added words will give a holiday island reading downwards. What is it?

LAW        \_\_\_\_\_ SHOE  
 DAY        \_\_\_\_\_ BULB  
 TEA        \_\_\_\_\_ FEED  
 TOUR       \_\_\_\_\_ LINES  
 ROLE       \_\_\_\_\_ RAILWAY  
 RACE       \_\_\_\_\_ DRAWN

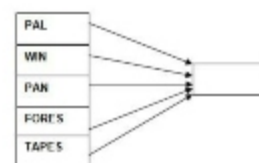
3. Which four letter word can be placed after the words to the left and before the words to the right?

QUICK            AWAY  
 BACK            DOOR  
 WILD             DRILL

4. A four letter word can be attached to the beginning of the words to the right, to give a longer word in each case. What is the word?



5. A three letter word that can be attached to the end of the given words to form five longer words. What is the word?



CREDIT: MENSA

Turn to page 37 for the answers.



I admit to being addicted to food. I like to know what is in the fridge, and to plan for at least the next two of three meals. Making a detour past a shop selling fresh local produce is a regular occurrence. Our sons know exactly how to get into my good books, by telling me that they've cooked something delicious and healthy, and maybe even taken the leftovers to work for lunch. In the Autumn, I started sending my husband to work with a healthy box of goodies, or a flask of chunky soup. Some of you may have been doing this for your loved ones for years. It's taken me 29 years to graduate.

Here a few recipes which have qualified for thumbs up.

## **RAINBOW SLAW with Asian Vinaigrette**

*Serves 6-8 as a side dish, or makes 4 lunch boxes*

½ head each of red and white cabbage – finely sliced

2 carrots, thickly grated or shaved into ribbons

4 spring onions, chopped

Large handful of chopped nuts – anything you have handy

**Dressing:** Whisk together in small jug, or shake up in a lidded jar

1 tbsp olive oil

Juice of half lemon

1 garlic clove, grated

1 tsp caster sugar

Place all prepared vegetables in a large salad bowl. Sprinkle with roasted sesame seeds. Dress and serve, or store in covered bowl for packed lunches.

## **Courgette and Harissa Falafels - makes 12**

*Pre-heat oven to 180 C/350 F/ Gas mk.4*

50g courgette - grated

3 tbsp olive oil

½ onion finely chopped (or spring onions, if you need to use some up)

1 clove of garlic, finely chopped

1 x 400g tin chickpeas, drained and rinsed

1 tbsp harissa paste

1 tsp tahini

50g oats

½ tsp each smoked paprika and ground cumin

1 – 2 tbsp spelt or wheat flour for rolling

Squeeze out the grated courgette to remove excess water and lay on kitchen roll.

Gently fry the onion and then the garlic until softened. Place the chickpeas, courgette, onion and garlic in the blender, add the harissa paste, tahini, oats and spices, plus a bit of salt and pepper. Blend until everything comes together as a dough. Divide this into 12 pieces. Roll each one lightly in flour. Place the remaining olive oil in the frying pan, and fry gently, until gently browned. Place the final tablespoon of oil in a baking tray and heat up. Roll the falafels into this hot oil, and then bake in the oven for 25 minutes.

Serve the falafels stuffed into a pitta bread, cold or hot, with salad, some natural yoghurt, and harissa paste, according to taste.

**Caroline Edwards**



**1<sup>st</sup> Aston Scout Group**

# **JUMBLE SALE**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1.30pm**

**The Village Hall, Fir Lane, Steeple Aston**

## **MEGA Jumble Sale!!**

**Grab yourself a bargain coat, candle or cook-pot...**

**Refreshments available - 40p entrance fee**

Jumble will be collected around the village on Saturday from 9am, or ring Torquil McLusky on 01869 347914 to arrange a drop-off or collection. Please leave jumble outside and marked "Scouts" - sorry, no TVs or furniture.

*Scouts meet every Tuesday during term-time at 7.30pm in the Sports & Social Club – if you have children aged 10 to 14 come up and find out more.*

## Have you thought about meditating recently?

If you are starting 2020 with a health kick, what about considering your mental health also? Mindfulness is the basic ability to be fully present, aware of where we are and what we're doing, and not overly reactive or overwhelmed by the stresses of every day life. It is proven to be fantastic for mental health and reduces anxiety and depression.

If you have never tried it before, here are a couple of ways to try mindfulness.

### Mindful Breathing

This exercise can be done standing up or sitting down, and pretty much anywhere at any time. All you have to do is be still and focus on your breath for just one minute.

1. Start by breathing in and out slowly.
2. Breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth, letting your breath flow effortlessly in and out of your body.
3. Let go of your thoughts. Let go of things you have to do later today or pending projects that need your attention.
4. Purposefully watch your breath, focusing on your sense of awareness.
5. Each time your mind wanders, bring it back to your breathing.

If you enjoyed one minute of this mind-calming exercise, why not try two or three?

### Five Senses Exercise

This exercise is called "five senses," and provides guidelines on practising mindfulness quickly in nearly any situation. All that is needed is to notice something you are experiencing with each of the five senses.

1. Notice five things that you can see - Look around you and bring your attention to five things. Pick something that you don't normally notice, like a shadow or a small crack in the concrete.
2. Notice four things that you can feel - Bring awareness to four things that you are currently feeling, like the texture of your clothes, the feeling of the breeze on your skin, or the smooth surface of a table you are resting your hands on.
3. Notice three things you can hear - Take a moment to listen, and note three things that you hear in the background. This can be the chirp of a bird, the hum of the refrigerator, or the faint sounds of traffic from a nearby road.
4. Notice two things you can smell - Bring your awareness to smells that you usually filter out, whether they're pleasant or unpleasant.
5. Notice one thing you can taste - Focus on one thing that you can taste right now, at this moment. You can take a sip of a drink, chew a piece of gum, eat something or notice the current taste in your mouth.

This is a quick and relatively easy exercise to bring you to a mindful state quickly.

STEEPLE ASTON EXERCISE CLASS

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# Village Hall News



## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020: Annual Quiz Night.**

Ring Barbara on 01869 340423 if you wish to book your team. One table left as we go to print. Entrance fee £2.50 p.p., maximum of eight people to a table. Entrance fee at time of booking please. 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. There will be a licensed bar so please do not bring your own drinks to this event.

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June – NGS Open Gardens, Steeple Aston 2 – 6pm**

Please note our letting agent is Mrs. Katie Rushworth  
01869 340196. Email [steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com](mailto:steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com)  
Collect keys from "Touchstones" The Dickredge, Steeple Aston. OX25 4RS.

The Village Hall Committee wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to your continued support throughout 2020.

**Barbara Brewer**, Chair

# Steeple Aston Garden Club



A New Year and a programme of inspiring talks is on the way at the Garden Club.

January's speaker, on the 21st, is Corrine Mitchell, giving a talk on "The Science of Soils". It will be an insight into the makeup of our soils, what they provide for plants and why gardeners might need to understand what the soil gives to the gardener. It may sound a little less lighthearted than some but Corrine is an RHS lecturer with a real enthusiasm for the subject. It should be entertaining and enlightening, and she comes with slides!

As we move towards Spring, (wonderful thought!), we will have Paul Barney from Edulis Nursery telling us about "Unusual Edibles" and Clare Foster, who is the Garden Editor of House and Garden magazine, talking about "Growing Flowers from Seed". Clare has just brought out a really beautifully illustrated book called "The Flower Garden" all about this and she will be illustrating her talk with slides from the book.

So, lots to encourage us towards our gardening in 2020, do come along and find out!

**Margaret Mason**, SAGC





# The Gardening Spot

## Spring will soon be here!

Happy New Year everyone and, hopefully, we will experience some wonderful growing seasons during 2020, when the weather is just right for both growers and those of us who simply enjoy the wonderful gardens this country has to offer.

So, what do we talk about in early January related to gardening? Well, believe this or not, it is only about 12 weeks until the clocks change and to mark this joyous occasion, the village celebrates with the annual Spring Show. You will see the schedule opposite and this is a great opportunity to start planning what you might be able to enter. This show is not just about flowers but has classes for cookery, handicraft, photography and floral art, not forgetting the large number of classes for children of all ages. Here are a few tips to get you started. With any of the flower classes it is all about timing. If you are growing daffodils or any of the spring flowers in containers, try and encourage the blooms to be out for the end of March. To do this you might have to bring the containers in the warm if buds are not showing by say the end of February. When displaying pots or containers, always clean them well before exhibiting. Cut flowers are best arranged in a vase using oasis, wire or paper in the base of the vase to allow you to display the blooms towards the front and best placed to impress the judge. When it comes to cookery or preserves, again it is essential that the presentation is at its best. For preserves, jars should be plain, have twist tops, without a maker's name (e.g. Roses). Labels should be easy to read. Hot preserve should be poured into clean, hot jars and filled to within 5mm of the top. No waxed discs or cellophane should be used. Twist lids should be put on straightaway and screwed tight. A pleasurable popping ought to be heard within about an hour, indicating that the preserve has cooled enough to make a vacuum and the contents are sealed. Seville oranges are now in the shops so just the right time to make some delicious marmalade. Many of you might look at the floral art classes and say, 'this is not for me' but how wrong you might be. Why not have a go and remember, you will always be able to take your entry home and enjoy the pleasures that it will bring let alone the admiration it will receive from your family and visitors. The handicraft classes are self-explanatory but please have a go at the "Twiddle-muff" as we would like to be able to donate all entries to the John Radcliffe dementia ward. The photography classes are varied and should appeal to nearly everyone these days as the modern mobiles can take better pictures than my old 'Brownie'! As for the children's classes, we have one special one for the 12-15-year age group where you can design a front cover for a future edition of SAL. The only stipulations are that it is in portrait and A4 in size. It can be hand drawn or computer designed and will be judged by our specialist judge and someone from the SAL committee.

Hopefully, there are some tips there that will encourage you to enter this great village show and help celebrate the beginning of spring. Thinking a little further ahead, here is a sneak preview of the photography classes for the annual show to be held in August. 'A single flower'; 'Blue'; 'Village Life'; 'Silhouettes' and a panel of four photographs with the subject matter of 'Water'. For the children's photography classes, we will have the subjects 'Trees'; 'Something Old' and 'A view through a window'.

Happy New Year to everyone, happy gardening and start to think about the Spring Show.

**Richard Preston**



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### Child's Play Answers

1. Hogmanay
2. At midnight on New Year's Eve
3. Red underwear
4. The Year of the Rat
5. February 29<sup>th</sup>
6. 02022020 can be read both ways – it's called a palindrome date
7. To celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day – the end of WW2 in Europe
8. Tokyo, Japan
9. The Mayflower
10. Florence Nightingale
11. Ludwig van Beethoven
12. The Queen
13. Cricket
14. Normal (not perfect) eyesight

# Church *Matters*



If I had a pound for every time someone stopped me in the pub and said 'I don't need to go to church to worship God', I'd... well, I wouldn't exactly be rich, but I'd certainly be able to afford a decent holiday!

There's a partial truth hiding inside these words. We've all felt the need to avoid church sometimes, and often because of times when things have happened to us or because of people who are around or maybe just because of life. Throughout the Church's history there have been times when people have come along and spotted the big problems that need to be sorted out. Augustine, Pope Gregory, Martin Luther, John Wesley, Mother Theresa, all sorts of people. Sometimes we feel we'd like someone like them, some Spirit-filled hero, to come and help us sort our little problems. (Though sometimes we feel we might honestly run a mile from such people...)

After all, it's tempting to see a great move of the Spirit and think: 'now everything is perfect!'. I remember being a student in the 1980s and seeing a huge congregation in a city church and being really impressed by the leadership of that place and how godly they all were. Ten years later there was a younger generation that itched for change and the older folk were immediately open to anything that God might be doing. Just kidding! They hated change as much as anyone else ever did. '*We've always done it this way before*' are the eternal seven last words of the church...

It doesn't matter whether people harken back to using the Latin Bible of St Jerome, or the King James Bible of Shakespeare, or Georgian box pews or Victorian bench pews, or the organ that Bach played, or Chagall windows, or Shine Jesus Shine, there is something in the human heart that always, always wants the old familiar things - and the moment that we fixate on such things (whatever they may be) then the person who accosts me in the pub and says 'I don't need to go to church to worship God' has a point. We can fill our lives with such stuff anywhere we like.

The prophet Isaiah, writing hundreds of years before Jesus was born, says this:  
'Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past.  
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness, and streams in the wasteland.'

At the beginning of a new year, I need to go to church to worship God because I need to let go of the things that I hold on to - but don't ultimately matter. I need to let go of the stuff that clings on to me. I need not to dwell on the past but to see that even today God can make streams of joy flow in what feel like the wastelands of our lives. It's not a building that tells me this story, but the people I worship with. And that's because the church isn't a building, it's a family - people just like me and you, whose lives are filled with the same reality, the same ups and downs, and yet who shine with the gift of Jesus. Love come down at Christmas.

I really hope we manage to move our church building project forward this year; but whether we do or not, I really pray you will come to church and worship with us, because all of us have things to let go of, and God will grant all of us his love and make us wonderfully new if we dare step out and trust him together.

*Bible Study happens most Mondays at the Rectory at 2pm. More news is always available on our website: [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com).*

**Rev Marcus Green**



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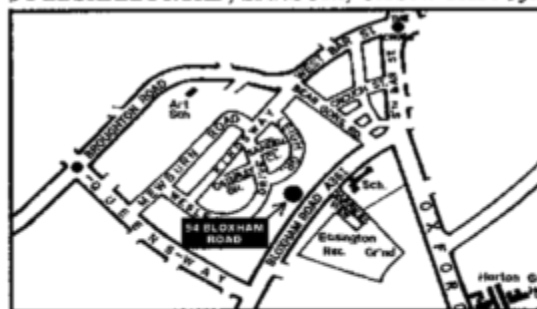
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Steeple Aston members have been very busy this month. Five of us went to Denman College for the Federation Weekend, celebrating 100 years of the the Oxfordshire Federation, attended by members from all over the county. It was a lovely weekend: four members attended a course entitled 'The Forties – Memories of Post War London' which included a trip to London. Another member attended a course on 'Singing with Abba' and together with others then entertained all those present for the weekend. Two members have since been on a trip to London, having a Fish and Chip lunch, followed by visits to a food market, Burlington Arcade and Fortnum and Mason. On our way home we took in the Christmas Lights of London with a running commentary by a Blue Badge Guide.

For our monthly meeting we decided this year to have a night out and went to the Deddington Arms Hotel for a Christmas Dinner. We had a private room which was decorated for Christmas – what an evening full of fun and laughter! Who would have thought balloons could be such fun? The meal was delicious and the service great.

The next meeting brings us to 2020. On 14<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall, we will be having a social evening which will be full of fun. New members are always welcome to find out what the WI gets up to. It is not just us at Steeple Aston; the County Federation puts on lots of events, holidays, and outings and we have our own adult college at Marcham where you can learn many new things. For more information, please contact me on 01869 340028.

**Linda Needle**, President



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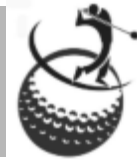
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### Mind Games Answers

1. Leopard. The words are LAY, EAR, OUT, PUN, ADO, RIB & DOG
2. Rhodes. The added words are COURT, LIGHT, SPOON, GUIDE, MODEL & HORSE
3. Fire
4. Lady
5. Try



Steeple Aston Golf Society rounded off the year with a splendid dinner presentation evening which was held at the Cotswold Club Chipping Norton. Thirty members with guests were treated to a pre-Christmas gathering along with an excellent meal served in the function room which was beautifully decorated.

After dinner we had a short team and picture quiz of 50 questions which brought lots of hilarity to the proceedings.

SAGS end of season trophies were awarded to the following:

TCS Rose Bowl is for the best 3 cards with handicaps of 1 - 17. Runner up with 105 points Alan Brewer and our winner with 106 points our Captain for the year George Kay. George was also presented with a keepsake for being our 2019 captain.

London Salver is for the best 3 scores over the 5 meetings for players with a handicap of 18 - 28. Runners up with 93 points Mike Brown & Chris Cooper. With a score total of 99 points and our winner was Tony Peck.

Captains Cup is the best score on captains day plus best other score. Runner up George Kay with 72 points and the winner with 73 points Alan Brewer.

On behalf of the golf society may we wish all our readers a very Happy & Healthy New Year. If Santa bought you a set of golf clubs for Christmas come and join us in 2020.

**Alan Brewer**, Chair

## **Bicester Bridge Club – how can we help you?**

**E**mily Sweetingham from Glebefields Care Home got in touch with us recently. Some residents had expressed an interest in learning to play bridge, could we help? We were delighted to do so.

One of our bridge teachers, David Tarsky, went to see them. He judged, and the residents agreed, that the first step towards playing a challenging card game was for them to play whist. In a two-hour session David taught six people the rules and some of the techniques of playing partner-whist, an excellent introduction to bridge. David left the group at the card table, still playing. Since then we understand other people are joining the Whist Club.

We'll continue to support Glebefields. A teacher will call in from time to time and we'll supply them with an electric card shuffler to speed up the process of dealing hands. There seems no doubt that activities like Sudokus and crosswords keep the mind agile as we age. The great advantage of whist and bridge is that you get to know new people and play in partnerships.

So, how can we help you?

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## THE VALENTINE CLUB

Happy New Year to everyone, whether you are eligible to join this club of reinvented teenagers or waiting a few years before you hit the magical age of 60 years young.

Since I last wrote for SAL we have experienced a wonderful talk on Dad's Army, the TV series, presented by Steve Dimmer, and we have visited The Gloucester Victorian Christmas Market where there were hundreds of stalls and the outlet stores. Hopefully, everyone found the presents they wanted for Christmas. One of the highlights of the club's calendar is the Christmas dinner and although I am writing this before it has happened, we knew we would be catering for 90 guests. Well done to S & J Cuisine for providing such a scrumptious meal so efficiently. The entertainment was by Chuckletruck and if you haven't experienced them before, they are the best comedy showband to be found in the UK.

It is at this time of the year when I must thank all the people who make this club the success that it is. Very important are the ladies who turn up each month to serve the teas so thank you Rose, Becky and Angie, not forgetting Barbara who makes this well-oiled machine function so well. To Joy and Carol for their sterling efforts with the monthly raffle which raises around £1,000 each year for the club. To Alan who really should be on stage somewhere (suggestions welcome!). But most importantly, to the members themselves who support the club so well throughout the year and are always on hand to help when asked.

So, what does 2020 bring for the club? Our first meeting on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January in the village hall brings Rob Daniels who is going to tell us all about "Hearing dogs for deaf people". The meeting starts at 2.30pm and this is a great time to come along if you were thinking of joining this group of over-60's. The annual membership fee is just £10, and we provide tea, coffee, cake and sandwiches for just £1 at each meeting unless we treat ourselves to fish and chips. On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January we have been invited by Dr Radcliffe's Primary School to attend a special production of "Christmas is Forever – Secret Agent 00p's". This will be at the school and doors open at 1.15pm for a prompt 1.30pm start. Teas will also be provided.

We have seven coach trips organised at present for this year and some great entertainers and speakers for our monthly meetings so if you would like to join or simply try us out just turn up at our next meeting where you will be made most welcome. For any more information please give me a call or email.

You can go to our website to see that latest photos of the club's activities and catch up on all the news: [www.valentineclub.wixsite/aston](http://www.valentineclub.wixsite/aston).

**Richard Preston**, Group organiser – [Richard.preston5@btopenworld.com](mailto:Richard.preston5@btopenworld.com) or 01869 340512.



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<b>Sunday 12th January</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Rev Marcus Green	<b>11am</b> Family Service Rev Marcus Green	<b>5.30pm</b> Holy Communion Rev Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons
<b>Sunday 19th January</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Communion Rev Marcus Green	<b>11am</b> Holy Communion Rev Marcus Green	<b>5.30pm</b> Informal Service Rev Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons
<b>Sunday 26th January</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	<b>11am</b> Morning Prayer <i>With Children's Church</i> Rev Marcus Green	<b>9.30am</b> Family Communion Rev Marcus Green
<b>Sunday 2nd February</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Rev Marcus Green	<b>11am</b> Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Rev Marcus Green	<b>5.30pm</b> Evensong Rev Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons

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Others - over 6 hours.....	£160	£300
<b>All Facilities (off peak - 4 hours)</b>		
Village Residents .....	£30	£75
Represented Clubs.....	£30	£75
<b>Committee Room</b>		
Represented Clubs.....	£6	
Non-Represented Clubs.....	£12	
Discount for represented clubs – 15% for six block bookings		

Letting Agent : Katie Rushworth (340196)  
 Chairman: Barbara Brewer (340423)  
 Secretary: Margaret Bullement (347346)

A represented club must send a representative to the Village Hall Committee meetings.

## Rubbish bin collection day = Thursday

January	February
2 <sup>nd</sup> blue and brown	6 <sup>th</sup> green
9 <sup>th</sup> green	13 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown
16 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown	20 <sup>th</sup> green
23 <sup>rd</sup> green	27 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown
30 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown	

## Steeple Aston Sports and Recreation Centre Letting Charges

Social Function peak times (up to 6 hours) £55  
 Social Function off-peak (up to 5 hours) £27.50

Meeting of represented club: £11 per session

Caution Money for Private Lettings: £100

Letting agent: Katie Rushworth - Tel: 340196

mailto: [rec.trust@googlemail.com](mailto:rec.trust@googlemail.com)

Chairman - Torquil McLusky - Tel: 347914

Treasurer - Chris Cooper - Tel: 347173

## Bus times

This timetable is a guide only - please consult local listings for up-to-date information and weekend times.

### S4 BUS SERVICE (Mon - Fri)

#### Buses from Steeple Aston (outside post office) to Oxford

06.29 07.07 07.44 09.23 then every hour till 15.23 16.24 17.24 18.24 19.22

#### Arrives Oxford

07.07 08.05 08.42 10.06 then every hour till 16.06 17.09 18.09 19.09 20.04

#### Buses from Steeple Aston (outside post office) to Banbury

07.57 09.00 10.02 then every hour till 15.02 16.05 17.05 18.05 19.05 20.00 21.00

#### Arrives Banbury

08.40 09.40 10.40 then every hour till 15.40 16.43 17.43 18.43 19.34 20.29 21.29

### MIDDLE BARTON BUS (Mon - Fri)

Bus from Steeple Aston (Nizewell Head) to Heyford Station 07.35 18.08

Arrives Heyford station 07.39 18.13

Bus from Heyford Station to Steeple Aston (Nizewell Head) 18.13

Arrives Steeple Aston (Nizewell Head) 18.16

### 5 BUS SERVICE (Wednesdays)

Bus from Steeple Aston to Chipping Norton 09.00

Arrives Chipping Norton 09.40

Bus from Chipping Norton to Steeple Aston 11.50

Arrives Steeple Aston 12.26

### 8 BUS SERVICE (Fridays)

Bus from Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) to Bicester 10.41

Arrives Bicester Village railway station 11.06

Bicester Tesco 11.12

Bicester Avenue 11.16

#### Bus from Bicester to Steeple Aston (outside Post Office)

Bicester Village railway station 13.37

Bicester Tesco 13.43

Bicester Avenue 13.48

Arrives Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) 14.05

# Steeple Aston Calendar

<b>JANUARY</b>			
Tuesday 14th	WI meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>Wednesday 15th</b>	<b>SAL February issue final copy and advert deadline</b>		
Saturday 18th	Annual Quiz night	Village Hall	7pm
Tuesday 21st	Garden Club meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 25th	Jumble Sale	Village Hall	1.30pm
Saturday 25th	Deddington Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am
<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
Sunday 9th	Snowdrop Sunday	Church yard	2.30pm
<b>Saturday 15th</b>	<b>SAL March issue final copy and advert deadline</b>		
Saturday 22nd	Deddington Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am to 12.30pm

**Choral Society Rehearsals.** Village Hall - 7.45pm - Mondays

**Badminton.** Village Hall - 10am -12.30pm - Tuesdays

**Bell Ringing practice.** Church Tower - 7.30pm - Tuesdays

**Scouts.** Sport & Rec Centre - 7.30pm - Tuesdays

**Baby and Toddler Group.** Sport & Rec Centre - 9am -11am - Thursdays

**Cricket Nets.** Robinson's Close - 6pm - Thursdays

**Badminton.** Village Hall - 8pm - Thursdays

**Village History Centre (SAVA)** open 10am-12pm - Saturdays

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