

# Steeple Aston *Life*

MARCH 2020

ISSUE No. 559



## **Inside SAL this month:**

- We introduce you to the two new Editors of SAL
- SAVA tell us about lost features of Steeple and Middle Aston
- We have more detail on the Spring Show taking place at the end of the month
- And much more...

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## Steeple Aston *Life*

### COPY

All articles and letters to the Editor

[editordsalife@gmail.com](mailto:editordsalife@gmail.com)

### COPY DEADLINES

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

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

### 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)

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### 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

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1 page (village events only)- £15

½ page - £12, ¼ page- £6.

Commercial adverts:

½ page- £15, ¼ page- £8

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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*

March 2020

Issue No. 559

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Jenny Bell, Sue McLean

# Editorial

Welcome to the March edition of Steeple Aston Life magazine. With spring around the corner I'm excited that we're heading into some, hopefully, sunnier months. I've also got some happy news for the magazine to share – we're thrilled to welcome not just one but two new editors as Becca Coker and Angela Smith will be taking over from next month.

I'm so pleased that both Becca and Angela have agreed to take on the role and I know they'll be a brilliant addition to the publication - good luck and welcome to both of you. You can find out more about them in our Steeple People feature as Angela is featured this month and Becca will be next month.

The process for sending in stories and adverts will still be the same from April onwards with the exception of one thing – we have a new email address. Please send any copy and news to [editorsalife@gmail.com](mailto:editorsalife@gmail.com) from now on. The email address for adverts is staying the same.

In this month's edition, SAVA tell us about the lost features of Steeple and Middle Aston, and don't forget at the end of March it's the Village Spring Show – find out more details on pages 14 and 15.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to the committee for all your support while I've been editing the magazine – it's been very much appreciated and I've really enjoyed being part of the team.

*Heather*



# Steeple Aston Noticeboard



## **NEW SAL email address for copy and articles**

From now on, please send your articles and news to our new email address:  
**EditorSALife@gmail.com**

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Martin Lipson for winning a High Sheriff of Oxfordshire Award 2020. This award is given to people who have done great service to their community and has been awarded to Martin for his work on the Mid-Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan.

## **Advance notice – road closure**

Heyford Road will be closed Monday 13th - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April for new drainage works.

## **ANNUAL LITTERPICK – SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – 10am**

**KEEP STEEPLE ASTON CLEAN AND TIDY!**

Volunteers wanted for the annual litterpick.

Every year we pick up litter along Sixtyfoot and Heyford Road, to keep the village looking tidy.

It usually only takes 30-45 minutes. Everyone welcome to join in.

Bags and equipment provided. Meet at 10am at the Telephone Exchange on Sixtyfoot or at the Stone Bus Stop on Heyford Road.

Coffee and cake for all volunteers afterwards at Seven Springs, South Side.

## **Year 3 Fishkeeper Fry Programme**

Class 3 are excited to have been selected to participate in Fishkeeper Fry 2020 (a national learning programme developed by Maidenhead Aquatics) from the beginning of January to help teach children about the joys and benefits of fishkeeping, whilst bringing some of their key science themes to life for them in the classroom. Supported by our local Maidenhead Aquatics store, we will be following an 8-week programme during school time, designed to teach the children how to set up an aquarium properly and care for their fish in the classroom. All the equipment for the programme and all the learning resources have been provided to us completely free of charge by Maidenhead Aquatics and their supporting partner Fluval. You can find out more about the programme and what the children will be getting up to here:

<https://www.fishkeeper.co.uk/fishkeeper-fry-parents>

**Niki Ridgway, Assistant Administrator, Dr Radcliffe's CE Primary School**



## *Editor's Letterbox*



Dear editor,

### **Where has all the common-sense gone?**

Now you may think I am just becoming a miserable old man who has far too much time on his hands but when I was a youngster, my parents always told me to use my common-sense. Maybe this was 'a thing of the times' and has been phased out by guidelines issued by some bureaucratic, overpaid officials working for us mere taxpayers. I am sure what I am going to tell you comes as little surprise, but I will feel better if I can share my frustration.

Many of you will have used "Fix My Street" to report highway issues and on many occasions this works well, but there are times when it doesn't. Now showing my age, I can remember when we had a village 'roadman' who swept the streets and pavements, cleaned out the drains and helped fill in any potholes before they got too large. He was probably paid a mere pittance compared with the technicians that manage our streets today but generally, the village roads were safe and clean.

So, are we making progress in this, the 21<sup>st</sup> century? In my opinion, NO!

On reporting a pothole to "Fix My Street", where of course, you can only converse with a computer-managed system, the concern was immediately acknowledged by return email and I thought, 'job done'. About a week later I had another email from the same source to inform me that the hole in question did not meet the criteria required to warrant a repair and this was after someone had made an inspection. I assume a real person travelled to Steeple Aston to inspect it and with that journey there is a cost. Being the miserable old man that I have obviously become, and I don't like to feel I have been defeated, I reported the hole again a week or so later, as by then it had deepened a few millimetres. They again sent out an inspector who acknowledged that this time it met the criteria for repair and painted a white line around the offending hole. About two weeks later someone has dropped a bucketful of tarmac in the hole but ignored the hole that is opening just a metre away.

So, I ask the question again. Where has all the common-sense gone? This example of complete lack of what I thought was a basic human attribute has cost time and money, our money as taxpayers.

Thank you for reading this as I feel a lot better for sharing my frustration.

**Richard Preston** – that miserable old man who needs to find a hobby!



# ???? Mind Games

1. Rearrange the letters of the anagram '**THIS IS MEANT AS INCENTIVE**' to give a well-known proverb. What is it?
2. A well-known proverb has been split up into groups. Rearrange the groups to form the proverb. What is it?

**ABIT HARD OLDH SDIE**

3. When each word is rearranged, one of them can be used to follow all the others to give six longer words. What are they?

**TIE SPED GIN OIL LOP RUDE RANG**

4. On each row place two letters that can be attached to the beginning of the word to the right to give a longer word. When completed a six letter word will be read downwards. What is it?

**\_ \_ QUIT**

**\_ \_ RING**

**\_ \_ TOES**

5. Pair the words to read four longer words. What are they?

**BOTTLE VERY GANG CART CAR BLUE WAY RIDGE**

6. On each row, place a letter that can be attached to the beginning of the word to the right, to give a longer word. When completed the added letters will give a word reading downwards. What is it?

**\_ CAMP**

**\_ EARL**

**\_ EMIT**

**\_ CONS**

**\_ EVER**

**\_ HOST**

**Answers page 41.**

**Credit: MENSA**

# The ARTS Page



We have been doing the ARTS Page for quite a few months now and are thinking about the future of the page - we want your ideas and suggestions. We were thinking it would be interesting for different members of the community to take the page over each month and feature their thoughts and insights on any of the given arts. For instance, this could be a book, painting or a piece of music – let us know what you think. In the meantime, we have a series of PREviews from Margaret Bulleyment for March.

## **SACS Concert Calendar 2020**

*Many thanks to all of you who came to our Autumn A Vision of Angels Concert at the end of November. It was a wonderful start to the choral Advent/Christmas season. This year we have a varied and exciting trio of performances lined up, with something for everyone, so do join us.*

### **Spring Concert Sunday 29th March – 7pm in Church**

*We are singing two exquisite classical (from the end of the eighteenth century) works in this concert – Haydn's Nelson Mass and Mozart's Solemn Vespers. Both works weave the soloist and choir parts through each movement to create a rich and fascinating musical texture. The original name of Haydn's Mass was Missa in Angustiis – Mass for Troubled Times – as by 1798 Napoleon had won four major battles over the Austrians in less than a year. However as the Mass had its first performance news came of Lord Nelson's victory at the Battle of the Nile and it was nicknamed the Nelson Mass. Two years later Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton visited the Esterhazy Palace where Haydn was court composer and the title was set in stone. Mozart's Vespers (Mozart did not, understandably, call them 'solemn' – 'glorious' would be a better word) is the last work he wrote for Salzburg Cathedral, but it will sound just as fine in the smaller space of Steeple Aston Church, with our wonderful acoustics and organ. Our four professional soloists are Angela Kazimierczuk, Frances Jellard, Peter Wilman and Christopher Foster, with Jon Kingston playing the organ.*

*Tickets, including refreshments, are £10 in advance from any SACS member, or me, Margaret Bulleyment (347346). They are also available from the Post Office. Tickets cost £12 on the door.*

### **Midsummer Medleys Party Concert Sunday 21st June – 6.30 for 7pm in the Village Hall**

*This will be a Midsummer party evening of songs from the shows – ABBA, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe etc. – with an audience singalong. It will be table seating (8 to a table.) Tickets will be available in May.*

### **Autumn Happy Birthday Beethoven Concert Sunday 22nd November – 7pm in Church**

*In celebration of Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary on 28<sup>th</sup> December, we have a very special autumn concert featuring our guest musician – Dr Paul Whittaker OBE. He is a profoundly deaf pianist and organist who 'signs' music. He signed Beethoven's Choral Symphony with the Halle Orchestra and Sir Mark Elder at the Barbican Beethoven Weekend recently. The concert will include choir numbers (Hallelujah from The Mount of Olives, Creation Hymn etc.) organ and trumpet solos, tenor and soprano solos, a piano trio, a piano duet and an adaptation of the Pathetique sonata for Power of Voice Silent Moments. The concert will end with our SACS accompanist, composer Paul Herrington's Gloria, written for choir, organ, trumpet, violin and cello. It was written especially for SACS and will be signed by Paul Whittaker. If you have any deaf or partially hearing friends, do bring them along to this concert. Tickets will be available in October.*

## **Margaret Bulleyment, SACS Secretary**

Many thanks to Margaret for your PREview this month. Email us with your thoughts and suggestions for the page to the new address: [editorsalife@gmail.com](mailto:editorsalife@gmail.com)

## **Heather and Nick Cleobury**



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

Four years

**Where did you move from?**

Bracknell, Berkshire

**What brought you here?**

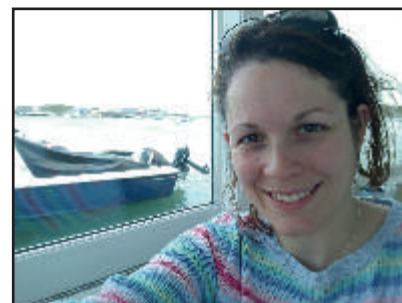
Peace, quiet, greenery, cheaper house prices (!)

**Give a potted history of yourself – in 40 words or less.**

Met my now-husband David at university. After graduation, backpacked across Asia and Africa, taught English as a Foreign Language, wrote travel guidebooks and sold safari holidays. Married David in 2012; our son James was born in 2019

**Angela Smith**

*(SAL co-editor)*



**How do you see yourself, in 5 words or less?**

Sleep-deprived mum, multi-tasker, part-time adventurer

**Early bird or night owl? Cat or dog? Optimist or pessimist? Technology: friend or foe? To marmite or not?**

Early bird; dog; optimist; technology foe (I can use it but find life is simpler without it). Yes to Marmite, although I prefer Bovril on a buttered crumpet...mmm

**What was your first job?**

Shucking oysters at the champagne and oyster bar in Selfridges

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

I work in marketing for Flight Centre

**What's your secret/guilty pleasure?**

Tiramisu, frothy cappuccinos with chocolate sprinkles

**What is your all-time favourite book?**

Pride and Prejudice. I've read it so many times I can recite the first page by heart!

**If you became prime minister, what law would you pass?**

I'd introduce the four-day working week

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

Antarctica.

**What do you get grumpy/mad about?**

Single-use plastics, excess packaging

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

Standing at the top of a mountain, or skiing down one

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

I've travelled to 72 countries

**Tell us a good joke.**

Why did the one-armed monkey fall out of the tree? Because I waved at him...





## Rewilding Britain

I have lots to say about how to make your money work for people and planet. The more I learn the more I realise how we can all make a difference by becoming more aware about how and where we invest our money. This month, however, I want to tell you about the talk I've arranged by the wonderful George Levvy (chairman of the Rewilding Britain trustees) on rewilding.

Last Thursday night I ventured out of Steeple Aston and undertook a stormy drive over the border to the village hall in Horton-cum-Studley. Having told a good friend of mine about our rewilding talk in North Aston, she said 'why don't you come over to a talk we are holding given by Dave Goulson called Wild at Heart'. I knew I'd be interested and felt I should support their efforts, so off I went.

They didn't need my support. The car park was overflowing when I arrived and on entering the hall, expecting no more than 50 people, I was truly amazed to count nearly 200. There was standing room only. I had no option. I stood! Dave is passionate about insects, especially bees. Whilst I know little about the insect population I do know that hundreds of species a day are being wiped out and that we are mainly to blame. Always a spider lover, anathema to friends and family, I can now add earwigs and woodlice to my list of respected and not to be stood on insects.

It was a wonderfully entertaining and informative evening. Huge thanks went to Dave Goulson who is in great demand and had agreed to speak only if they could get at least 150 people to come. Well they certainly managed that. At the end of the evening during the Q&A Dave mentioned what a huge fan of rewilding he is. At this point I had the urge to rush to the front and announce 'we're giving a talk on rewilding in North Aston, please come'. I refrained because it didn't seem appropriate - as though I would be stealing Dave and Horton-cum-Studley's thunder.

I did realise, however, just how lucky we are to have George coming to talk to us and how kind it is that Nicholsons have offered to sponsor the evening. I met George on a climate change retreat - a wonderful three days last October when a group of 16 of us, from all walks of life, came together to discuss our feelings and thoughts about what was happening to the planet. Quite spontaneously at the end of the second day George gave us a talk on rewilding Britain. An idea and experiment that grew out of the Knepp estate in West Sussex - an estate owned by husband and wife team Isabella and Charlie Tree.

Type Isabella Tree into YouTube and you will find her talk on 'How Rewilding can save the environment'. It's fascinating - so much so I have watched it three times! She has also written a book titled Wilding - an historical and beautiful account of her rewilding journey. George knows Izzy, as he calls her, well so has a wonderful story and message to share. I am thrilled he is coming to talk to us and I know this is an evening not to be missed.

The Rewilding talk is happening on Wednesday 25th March at the barn at Nicholsons, 7pm arrival for a welcome drink to start at 7.30pm.

To register your interest please email [rewildingsteeple@gmail.com](mailto:rewildingsteeple@gmail.com)

I look forward to seeing you there.

**Joanna Coull**

# 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.



## Victoria Online:



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

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The Bakery Office, North Aston, OX25 5HX

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Call us on: 01869 349020

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





# Steeple Aston Garden Club



Hard to remember Spring is on its way with the storm blowing as I write this weekend, but a visit from Dr Keith Ferguson this week to talk about 'The Hidden World of Pollen' should brighten the gloom, especially as he will be bringing snowdrops!

But on to March 17th, when we will have Paul Barney from Edulis Nursery coming to speak to the Garden Club on 'Unusual Edibles'.

Paul founded Edulis, based near Pangbourne, a specialist nursery growing an eclectic mix of rare and unusual plants, including a good range of edible plants, mostly hardy and easy to grow and not usually seen in the local garden centres.

And, looking ahead to April 21st, we have Clare Foster, Garden Editor of House and Garden magazine.

She has just brought out a beautifully illustrated book, 'The Flower Garden, Growing Flowers From Seed' and will be talking about growing from seed, with lovely pictures.

So, lots to look forward to, do come along (both meetings 7.30 for 8.00pm).

**Margaret Mason, SAGC**

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## Sustainable Steeple's Crafternoon Tea



Crafternoon tea is based on two important tenets:

- Up-cycling is a great way to find new ways to use things that would otherwise be discarded, and
- Crafting is so much more fun when it's combined with company, conversation and cake

So, what is Crafternoon Tea? Crafternoon Tea can largely be what you want it to be. If you are already working on a project and just fancy some company (and cake), then bring it along, or, if you don't, you can have a go at one of our two new-from-old projects - up-cycling picture frames with decoupage or creating collage art from old off-cuts of wood, leftover paints and pictures/text from magazines destined for the recycling bin.

The materials for the new-from-old projects are things that have been donated to Sustainable Steeple as part of our Second Chances project aimed at reducing the number of unwanted items that go to landfill. We'll be on hand to advise on techniques and both projects have been designed to be completed in 2 ½ hours so that you can take your creation away with you. Oh, and you don't even have to craft if you don't want to! Tea, coffee and cake will be provided courtesy of the Village Hall Committee's Pop-Up Café, so you could just come along and enjoy those. Set to become a monthly activity, we hope you'll be able to join us for our first Crafternoon Tea on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March from 2 – 4.30pm at the Village Hall.**

**Amanda Rodgers**

# VE Day 75

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day and the first May Bank Holiday has been moved to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> to allow for a weekend of celebrations and commemorations.

The weekend offers the chance to organise something special that brings together the whole Steeple Aston community in a celebration of peace and friendship. Our plans are progressing well and below is a snapshot of what's being planned:



## **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Street Party**

An afternoon of fun, food and the 40s!

The village will be bedecked with bunting and tables laid out to accommodate what will effectively be a giant village picnic, with everyone contributing dishes, bringing along drinks.

40's dress is an optional extra, with prizes for the best-dressed and if you fancy having a go at some favourite wartime recipes, we'll be posting some on the village website in the coming weeks, including wartime loaf, eggless sponge cake, vegetable turnovers, and Lord Woolton pie, not forgetting the Spam, of course!

A range of activities are being planned across the afternoon, with something for everyone! Look out for more information in next month's SAL.

In addition to our own activities, we'll be participating in a number of those being arranged nationally, including:

- Last Post – a moment to pause and reflect
- The Nation's Toast – a chance to raise our glasses and toast
- The Cry for Peace Around the World – read by our 'village crier' at the War Memorial
- Ringing out for Peace – the bells of St. Peter & St. Paul will ring out alongside those of churches across the nation.

## **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May – We'll Meet Again**

An evening of singing and celebration at the Village Hall, featuring songs from the war years with plenty of opportunities for a good, old-fashioned singalong.

## **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Service of Celebration & Commemoration**

Sunday's Church service will include the reading of the Tribute to the Millions. For more information and to get involved, please contact me on 07793 553150 or at [amanda.rodgers@vendorcom.com](mailto:amanda.rodgers@vendorcom.com).

**Amanda Rodgers**

For and on behalf of Steeple Aston Parish Council

# Steeple Aston Spring Show

HOMEMADE  
CAKE, COFFEE  
AND TEA

COOKING,  
FLOWERS AND  
VEGETABLES

TOMBOLA

CHILDREN'S  
DIVISIONS

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March

2.30-4.30

£1 Entry

Free For Under 16's



The Spring Flower Show will be held in the Village Hall on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** from 2.30 - 4.30 pm. Entries are open to everyone and new exhibitors are welcome. The entry fee includes the Society's membership fee. Rules for exhibitors are as laid down by the secretary in the Annual Show Schedule except (a) entries must be in by **7pm on Thursday 26th March. Late entries will be charged double and no entry will be accepted after Friday 27th March** (b) exhibits must be staged between 9 – 10.45am on the morning of the show **after which the Hall will be closed.** Multiple entries in the same class will not be allowed in Divisions 1, 2 and 3. Cups will be awarded to the winner of most points in each open Division and the Mead Vase will be awarded to the person having entered in at least three of the five divisions and gaining the most points in the show. Easter eggs will be awarded to the winner of the most points in each of the children's age groups and the Bedding Cup for the best exhibit.

# **Race Night**

**Saturday 25th April 2020**

**at and in aid of the**

**Sports and Recreation Centre**



**Doors open 6:30pm, Starter's Orders 7:30pm**

**£2 entry for Lucky Number Race Card  
and Light Supper.**

**Prizes for Winning Owners and Jockeys  
Tote betting available**

For Further Information  
Call Neil Brewer on 01869 349747  
or Alan Peckham on 01869 347756



# Community Defibrillator Seminar

**Learn about the village defibrillator and how it works.  
Find out about Sudden Cardiac Arrest and how to  
recognize it. See how you could save a life.**

**Everyone Welcome  
(Admission Free)**

## **Steeple Aston Village Hall Thursday 12th March 7.30 p.m.**

The Community Heartbeat Trust will be demonstrating the use of defibrillators and explaining how the equipment works and its benefits to the community in saving precious minutes in the treatment of sudden cardiac arrest.

**The more people that know how to use the portable  
defibrillator installed in our community, the more chance  
there is of saving the life of a victim of  
Sudden Cardiac Arrest**

GDPR Compliance Statement 1  
24th April 2018

Community Heartbeat Trust Charity (CHT) and Community Heartbeat Trust Solutions Ltd (CHTS)

By contacting us or asking us to contact you, you are agreeing for us to hold your details on our systems so we are able to support you and contact you in respect to any enquiries; in an emergency; for other purposes relating to the defibrillator; or for research purposes.

Details of individuals (including local WebNos contact) may be transmitted to the local Ambulance Service for their command and dispatch computer system. These details will only be accessible to the Ambulance Service, or other Statutory Agency where required. In case of defibrillator activation it is necessary for the Ambulance Service to report such instances, make contact with the local caretaker, and ensure that equipment is made fully operational after use.

If delivery details have been passed to a supplier, or courier company they will be required to delete your data after delivery unless needed for repeat deliveries.

You have a right to request viewing any information that we hold on you.

All data will be held for historical purposes for a minimum of 20 years. CHT is registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for holding of this information. Data held by CHT will not be passed to any 3rd party marketing organisation.

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TUESDAYS

9:30 - 10:30 (Drop-in)

Upper Heyford Reading Room, OX25 5LB

THURSDAYS

9:30 - 11:00

The Marlborough School, Woodstock, OX20 1LP  
Book at [www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk)

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

Upper Heyford Village Hall, OX25 5LB

FRIDAYS

9:30 - 10:30 (Drop-in)

KGF Community and Sports Centre,  
Lower Heyford, OX25 5PG

The Canal Studio

37 Freehold Street, Lower Heyford, Oxfordshire OX25 5NS  
Klara Walters-James, T: +44 7799493510  
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## Mad as

Mad as a hatter  
its senses aware  
it dashes through fields  
but not without care  
for why is it running  
and how does it know  
that the beast who is chasing  
is not letting go  
and there is no rest  
in the woods and hedgerow  
the hunted and hunter  
the to-ing and fro  
a creature so breathless  
who can't ease the pace  
whose ribs are full heaving  
whose grimacing face  
says that life isn't gentle  
a life solitaire  
that doesn't get chance  
for a life that is fair  
infusing its chaos in  
furrow and fields  
it frolics on impulse  
to madness it yields  
delighting the viewer  
who won't know the reason  
why jumping like this puts  
the spring in the season  
why running and leaping  
and flying through air  
must happen in March  
in the month of the hare.

## Peter Wild



## Workmen in the house

We've got workmen in the house  
Improving it outside and in.  
But workmen can really drive you nuts,  
- the dust, the mess, the din.

The banging, the whistling, the drilling.  
The making of tea every day  
I know it was me who asked them to come,  
Now I wish they'd just go away!

Workman 1 paved a bit of the garden  
He's done a good job, it's true  
But there's rubble all over the flower bed  
And none of the bulbs can get through.

A surplus radiator faced Workman 2,  
He removed it in two hours flat  
But as a result the heating gave up,  
So he had to come back and fix that.

Workman 3 came to cut back a shrub  
That had grown a little too big.  
But he got rather over-excited  
And pruned it to four leaves and a twig.

Workman 4 came to sand the stairs  
Making dust storms you wouldn't believe  
The house felt like the Sahara,  
And we longed for him to leave.

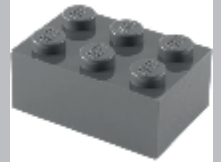
Workman 5 raised another dust storm,  
laying a new wooden floor  
And once his job was finished,  
Workman 6 came to fit some new doors.

He replaced a motley assortment,  
So now all of our doors are the same.  
Then Workman 7 came with his brushes  
To paint the new doors and their frames.

The workmen have all gone home now.  
We're done and dusted - but there's a catch.  
The places they've renovated look great  
But the places they haven't don't match.  
So now we need several more workmen to bring  
The rest of the house up to scratch.

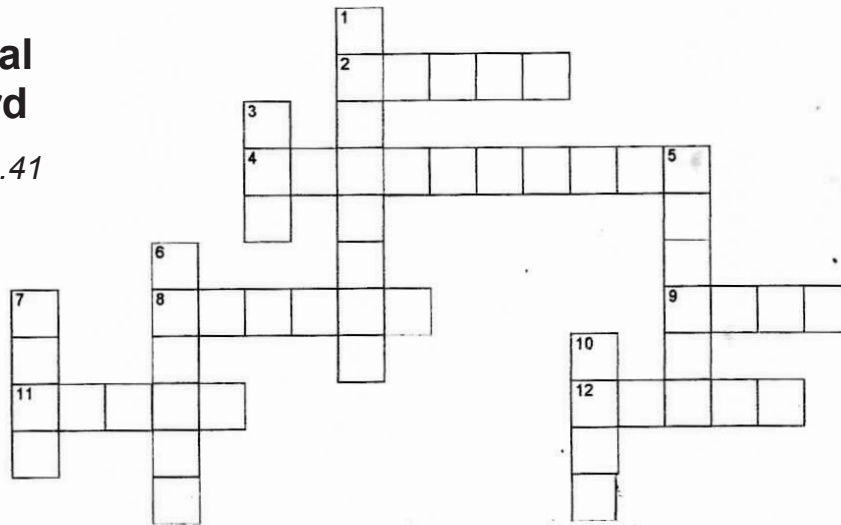
## Cathy Lawday

# Child's Play



## A Seasonal Crossword

Answers on p.41



### ACROSS

2. It's Mother's Day this month in the UK, not in the US
4. A day for playing tricks
8. A small pool of water
9. Not too hot or cold
11. A spring flower
12. A month of Spring

### DOWN

1. Protection from the rain
3. Another month of Spring
5. A brief fall of rain
6. The season after Winter
7. Flying a \_\_\_\_\_ is fun on a windy day
10. Precipitation

## Village Hall News



### Quiz Night January 2020

The Annual Quiz night proved yet again to be very successful and enjoyable evening with 13 teams taking part. Questions were once again set by Jo Mallinson who presented them along with Alan Brewer and Peter Mallinson putting the scores on the doors. Our thanks to them for making it fun, whilst challenging and taxing our brains. The winning team this year were **'Brasenose Ringers'** with a score of 93 points. Thank you to all who participated, those who helped beforehand and on the evening, not forgetting those who donated superb raffle prizes, so we will give them a mention: Holt Hotel, Hopcrofts Holt Garage, Nicholsons Nurseries, Nellie & Dove of Deddington, Red Lion Steeple Aston, Arty Crafty Steeple/Middle Aston, Jocy at Deddington.

### 'Wonderful Villages' Photo Competition

For all the keen and enthusiastic photographers in the Village, win up to £1,000 for your Village Hall and £500 for the photographer. Submit your entry and vote for others. Open to all rural UK Village and Community Halls. Entry is FREE. Details of prizes, theme and entry dates are in the rules available from our Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/AlliedWestminster> and on <https://villagehallsurvey.com/rules-photo-competition-v1.pdf>.

PLEASE NOTE: The competition will not focus on 'pretty, pretty' villages but will celebrate village life and the role of village halls in their communities. Judges will be looking for photos that encapsulate the sense of village community. Good luck to all who enter. The closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May/Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May VE Day Anniversary Celebrations.**

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

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.

Barbara Brewer, Chair

# HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO.....?

## Burford Church

**T**here are so many interesting and unusual – indeed, unique – things to discover if you take a walk around Burford Church. You can look forward to a fascinating visit if you decide to explore this special building, especially if you have an interest in history. A ‘Wool’ church, so named because money from the medieval wool trade helped to fund its construction, Burford Church sits alongside the River Windrush with a well-kept and pretty graveyard. The graveyard is full of interest too. There are several ‘Bale’ tombs which are only found in this part of the Cotswolds and so named because they appear to be surmounted by bales of cloth or wool. Once inside the church – don’t forget to look up and admire the fan vaulting in the porch as you walk in – there are free ‘A Walk Around the Church’ leaflets. I recommend that you adopt one of these to guide you to the extraordinary treasures of this parish church.



There’s no space here to describe even half of the things you’ll see but just to encourage you to explore – don’t miss peering at the lead lining of the font to make out the inscription ‘Anthony Sedley 1649 Prisner’ which Sedley, a mutineer from Cromwell’s army, left as a legacy of his incarceration in the church. Complaining about the prospect of having to serve in Ireland and poor pay, a group of soldiers from the New Model Army rebelled and ran away but were captured and imprisoned in the church until Cromwell came to sort things out. (Three of the defectors were taken into the churchyard and shot.) How angry we would be today if someone on remand did something similar to Anthony Sedley!

Do see if you can spot the (rather risqué) Epona Stone on the wall of the Turret Tower – and spare a thought for Elizabeth Tanfield when you meet her on her parents’ monument. Their approach to child-rearing was different from that of today. She was apparently expected to kneel before them whenever she spoke to her parents!

There is much more to discover and when you have finished your exploration you might care to enjoy refreshment in the comfortably refurbished Warwick Hall.

Parking is free in Burford and there’s no charge to visit the church but donations are welcome.

**Eileen Baglin-Jones**

# Parish Council Meeting Notes



The February Parish Council meeting was held on a cold, windy evening but this had not put off a member of the public who said she wished to see what went on, rather than watch her TV. She was welcomed and at the end of the meeting she was told she could see for herself the accuracy of my report. I rang her after the meeting and she accepted my offer to include her (unedited) comments on my version of this meeting; see the end of this report.

The road at the Beeches is terrible but, hoorah, it is due to be closed between 13th and 24th April for drainage works and resurfacing. The Councillors were not sure exactly how much would be resurfaced and they were concerned that the mud and debris should be removed under the wall on the opposite side of the road at the same time. They had seen the drain on Water Lane was silting up a bit and they were concerned about the water welling up on North Side. They would continue to press for progress and more information on all these watery road issues.

A tree is stuck in the river by Rousham bridge and this has been reported to the Environment Agency but, apparently, it is too dangerous to remove now. There is also wood by the Beeches which someone claimed 'those short of firewood would remove in due course.'

There will be a new white line going around the corner at the top of Paines Hill and into South Side. The Parish Council's new speed warning sign has been moved from beside the school to Sixtyfoot. The records from the first month suggest the sign has been effective at controlling speeding though this is difficult to prove as we don't know what the traffic speed would have been like without the sign. As far as I can work out the only way of really testing the effectiveness of the first sign would be to have a second one and see if people slowed down between the two signs. I resisted putting forward this suggestion, I can't think why.

The Councillors are looking for land on which to plant trees and the potential sites suggested included the old quarry and approaching local farmers. Have you any ideas?

We were told that the street lights are being replaced with LED bulbs. Some of the replacements are very bright, for example on North Side, while others are less so, such as in Grange Park. Apparently if you wish to complain about a streetlight you need to know its number. But the numbers are visible on only some of the lights so one Councillor said he would try to get a copy of the registration of the numbers so in future we would be in a position to complain if necessary.

The Councillors wondered if broadband should be made available in the Village Hall area, with one of them pointing out that this could be very desirable on Quiz Night. One problem is how it could be paid for as the Village Hall would be treated as a business, rather than residential, which means the cost would be two to three times higher than we pay at home. Although it might be useful for all of us, the serious users are likely to be the History Centre or anyone needing the code for the defibrillator. There are two defibrillators in the village, one on the outside of the Sports and Recreation Centre and the other in the Red Lion. There is a possibly slightly unnecessary sign near the till in the Red Lion telling you there is a defibrillator by the till.

The recent survey of mobile phone reception has been completed and a full report of the results is available on the village website ([www.steepleaston.org.uk](http://www.steepleaston.org.uk)). We are all being urged to write to our providers to complain that the service is inadequate. The details of who to contact and suggestions for what might be included in your letter are on the website in the News section. The Councillors wondered if a new mast might be possible within or close to the village.

Apparently, our MP, Victoria Prentis, has been made an Under Secretary at DEFRA. Someone said she might know something about farming as 'She has at least three sheep'. Someone else commented, not at all sheepishly, that this was being 'sheepist'. The next part of the discussion was my favourite sort; lengthy, repetitive and dull. The issue was that the Clerk needed a new computer. She is also Clerk for other Parish Councils so should she have a machine for each one (no; she did not want four machines), should it be a laptop (no; she preferred

*Continued on next page*



# Parish Council Meeting Notes



not), if we got her a new machine could she do work for the other parishes on 'our' machine (we would never know), and should it be bought outright or on a monthly rental. Finally, it was agreed Steeple Aston would be computer independent and a new machine was approved.

The plans for the VE Day celebration seemed to be progressing well. The allotment committee are busy digging for victory and the Village Hall Committee were singing 'We'll meet again' to themselves. War time food ideas and more volunteers are needed however. (Please contact Amanda Rodgers on 07793 553150 if you would like to help).

The next issue was much the most interesting part of the meeting. The Councillors looked at the latest proposal by Rectory Homes for the development of about ten houses at the Sixtyfoot end of South Side. It will benefit the village if the scheme goes ahead because, according to independent safety experts, the road will be made safer as part of the development.

Rectory Homes knows that Cherwell is keen to meet its housing targets because if it fails to do so, it can lose its powers to prevent developers having a free hand. They also know that if a developer plans more than ten houses it is obliged to include a proportion of 'affordable' housing. These two factors mean that Cherwell has proposed to Rectory that more than ten houses should be built on the site, so that some of them would have to be 'affordable'. We do not know however whether these houses could be allocated to people with strong ties to this village or whether they would have to go to those on Cherwell's housing list. After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would maintain its support for the scheme as it stands.

The Councillors next turned to how they could get more people, or for that matter anyone, to come to the annual Parish Meeting. A previous Chairman had tried biscuits to no avail. Someone suggested free beer might be a sufficient draw but this seems like a dangerous strategy to me because if anyone who came asked who was paying for the beer the answer must be "You are, via the local element of your Council Tax". Hardly a winning strategy. Another suggestion was that the Parish Council might have a stall at the church fete. I thought the biscuits could be a winning strategy here – free biscuits in exchange for a short chat to a Councillor.

Someone suggested that if wet sponges were available and the Councillors were in stocks we might get plenty of takers, but this idea was treated with the disdain it probably deserved. The website description of the Parish Councillors will be expanded to include their respective lead roles so we will know who to approach about which issues.

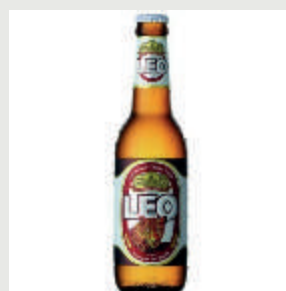
The member of the public who came to the meeting wrote afterwards: 'Steeplejack's report makes enjoyable reading and bears a strong resemblance to the lively and productive discussion between the hardworking Councillors who give their time and energy on our behalf.'

Very diplomatic.

Do come and see for yourself what goes on at the next meeting on the 16th March.

## Steeplejack

*This report is the personal view of the SAL reporter, and is not intended to be a complete record of the Council meeting. The official record - once approved - will be available at [www.steepleaston.org.uk](http://www.steepleaston.org.uk)*



As a relative newcomer to the village and to SAVA, one of the ways I am getting to grips with the village history is by reading the work of C.C. Brookes, "History of Steeple and Middle Aston" published back in 1929. Amongst the many intriguing descriptions he gives are those of several long lost features which will no doubt prove to be worthy of further investigation!

**Roman Villa** – In 1658, a farmer came across parts of a roman mosaic and bath house in the fields that now surround Nizewell Head. This location would have provided a fine view over the marshy valley of the Cherwell. The field also revealed “many skeletons”, suggesting a sizable community. A coin believed to have been found around this time, dates from the later Roman period c. 275 AD. The finds were presented to a “Dr Plot” who was the very first keeper of the Ashmolean Museum.

**The Pest House** – This was an isolated thatched building in a field near Duckworths Well at the bottom of the Dickredge. It was presumably used to house victims of the medieval plagues. Some evidence of it may well have still been visible in the early 1800s.

**The Middle Aston Watermill** – This medieval mill gave its name to Millbrook, the stream that flows through the grounds of Middle Aston House and feeds the lakes there. The mill was sited on the stream east of the road to Middle Aston and “Millbrook Spinney”. It fell into disuse and was gone by the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.

**The Village Stocks** – A report by the Steeple Aston Constable in 1787 (after they had been vandalised) suggests that they were on South Side roughly opposite where Bradshaw Close is today.

[illegible]

# **Steeple Choral Presents**



## **HAYDN “NELSON MASS” & MOZART “SOLEMN VESPER”**

-----

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
in Steeple Aston Church at 7.00pm**

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## **Join us for a talk on Rewilding by George Levvy (Chairman of the Trustees for Rewilding Britain)**

**When: Wednesday 25 March 2020**

**Venue: Nicholsons, The Barn, North Aston, Bicester, Oxon OX25 6HL**

Rewilding is the large-scale restoration of ecosystems where nature can take care of itself. It seeks to reinstate natural processes and, where appropriate, missing species – allowing them to shape the landscape and the habitats within.

Rewilding is a really current topic (even featuring on the Archers!) so I am absolutely delighted that George has agreed to come and talk to us. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and even though Rewilding Britain is happening in all parts of the country George lives in Oxford so can talk about how rewilding can be used at a local level. You can find out more at [www.rewildingbritain.org.uk](http://www.rewildingbritain.org.uk)

**Arrive for a welcome drink at 7pm.**

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# *The Gardening Spot*

## **Spring has sprung and time to get gardening!**

I have stopped reading glossy magazines for now although, I did get some very positive feedback from my experiences of reading these highly expensive publications. However, it is now time to think about the garden and what the next few months can offer us.

I will start with the lawn or any piece of grass that you might be tending. Hopefully you have had the mower serviced and the clippers sharpened as well-maintained tools make gardening so much more pleasurable. You should be able to do the 'first cut' anytime now but avoid cutting grass when a frost is imminent. Set the blades a bit higher than you might for the main season so that you don't encourage moss. I actually mowed my grass, and I have a lot of grass, on December 5<sup>th</sup> and followed up in mid-February with a very high cut mostly to remove any debris that had found its way onto my grass. This is a good time to add a lawn fertilizer and selective weed control and there are many different makes available in the garden centre but what they all do is encourage good grass growth and reduce any weed infestation that will have occurred over the winter months.

Moving onto the flower beds, it is time to clear away any unwanted materials and remove flower heads from last season. Take out any weeds you can and give the herbaceous borders a feed. I use fish, blood and bone meal but there are many different feeds you can use but just like us, plants benefit from feeding.

The vegetable garden should by now be dug over or at least top-dressed in readiness for seed sowing and planting. I mention the idea of top-dressing instead of digging as, following our garden club talk in January, it became obvious to me that digging is not always necessary as it can reduce the effect of the micro-organisms working in the soil. It probably depends on what type of soil you have and what you are going to grow. Sow early carrots, beetroot, peas, lettuce or salad leaves and towards the end of the month plant the first early potatoes, remembering to protect them from a late frost when they emerge. Do not sow runner or French beans yet as they will suffer from frost or cold winds that we will undoubtedly experience in April or May. If you have a greenhouse then you can start many seeds off with the protection given but again, beware of any frosts. I never plant tomato or cucumber plants in my greenhouse until mid-April at the earliest as the plants will always do best if they grow away uninterrupted.

### **Spring Flower Show – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March – 2.30pm**

So, spring has arrived and the spring flower show is on the first day of British Summer Time so what better way of celebrating this date in your diary than coming to the Village Hall and seeing all the beautiful spring flowers in their glory or possibly entering in the show. The schedule can be found in this edition of SAL and if you need any help or advice, then please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the committee. We are here to help and make your day as enjoyable as possible. During the afternoon there will be the opportunity to sample some superb homemade cakes along with a cup of tea or coffee. This is the first major event of the village calendar so please come and have a look at what the village can produce and hopefully, you might consider taking part as the show can only survive with your help.

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





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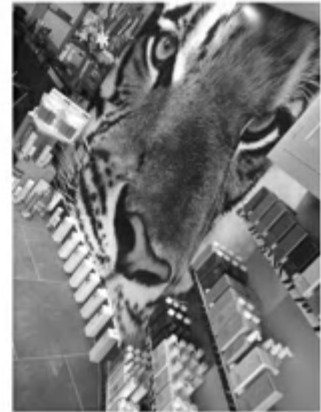
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# Church *Matters*



Lent is upon us. All through the next six weeks or so we are looking to find ways to draw people together and be creative in order to raise funds for our Church Re-Ordering Project. So, I hope to see lots of you at lots of events, mostly small but one or two larger ones through March and into April. We will have notices on the board in church, and things will go round by word of mouth - please do support us!

## **Church Re-Ordering Project**

The PCC pointed out that 'Church Building Project' sounds a little bit like we are building a new church somewhere, whereas in fact we are simply re-ordering the inside of the building so that it becomes much more usable for many more people. I don't mind what title we give to the project - I'm delighted by the enthusiasm of our PCC and of all sorts of people who just want us to get the job done! It is taking a long time. The Diocesan Advisory Committee on church buildings gave us a sort of amber light on the project nearly two years ago - and then we had some kick-back from a couple of the national amenity societies that comment on historic buildings. That left us three basic options: 1. Do what the amenity societies want (essentially, very little, and certainly not enough to make the building useful through the week) 2. Do what we had planned anyway (but we'd almost inevitably end up in a long drawn out court battle to get the permissions we need, and all that would cost time and money) 3. Find a compromise that gives us enough to make it worth doing the project, while at the same time keeping the amenity societies happy. This is what we are currently working on - and it's a bit tricky...

Through it all, we started with six principles, and we are not letting go of them.

**Access** - we want anybody and everybody to have good and easy access to the whole church and across the churchyard.

**Better heating** - a warm church shouldn't be rocket science in this day and age, and if we can do something to introduce renewable energy, so much the better.

**Toilets** - whether you are young or old or somewhere in between, it's perfectly reasonable to expect a public building to have decent toilet facilities.

**Hospitality** - we want simple hospitality facilities so we can foster fellowship after church, put on decent concert interval drinks, host a small cafe midweek. A church is about loving God and caring for people; hospitality somewhere near the centre of church life.

**Children** - we need a specific space for our children's church within our own building so that children know they matter here.

**Flexible space** - much loved as our Victorian pews are, the lives of people in our village today matter more. We want space so we can worship in different ways, have more concerts, welcome the school regularly, find a place where the PCC can meet or watch a midweek cafe thrive. Maybe Sustainable Steeple might make use of the building; maybe we'll have a Heritage Corner with a permanent display about the Steeple Aston Cope bringing visitors to the village.

We hope to have agreement with the amenity societies on our new plans before long. And when we do - there'll be an exhibition so everyone can see. And then we will be able to really get moving...

Finally: Mothering Sunday is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. We will be holding a lovely Morning Prayer service at 11am, with flowers for everyone, and Children's Church that morning too. Do come and worship with us - it's terrific to give thanks for mothers, for family, for those who are like mothers to us, and for all in our community who mean so very much to us, young and old.

*More news is available on our website: [www.sntchurch.com](http://www.sntchurch.com). Bible Study usually happens in the Rectory at Steeple on Monday afternoons at 2pm.*

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**March's new-from-old project will be picture frames and collage art.**

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Crafting not for you?

That's fine – come along anyway as the Village Hall Committee will be running a **Pop-Up Café** alongside us, so you can just enjoy the tea/coffee, cake and conversation! Next Date – Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> – new from old project: jewellery up-cycling. Please email [amanda@sustainablesteeple.com](mailto:amanda@sustainablesteeple.com) or call on

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Linda Needle welcomed all those present to a lovely warm Village Hall with the temperatures outside freezing. Happy Birthday was sung to those whose birthdays were in February. Members were asked to show their interest in the organisation of a visit to Whitchurch Silk Mill in August and quite a few were interested, this was going to be a North Ploughley Group visit. Janice Kinory told us about a guided tour of Chipping Norton by a Blue Badge Guide which she was organising when the weather should be a little warmer and as is customary we would follow this with a lunch. Members were also reminded of the group meeting in March. The business of the evening then concluded and the microphone handed over to our speaker John Tyler and his talk entitled 'Life in a Nutshell'.

We learnt about bugs and insects which live in our homes and locally in the countryside around us from eggs to maturity, this was fascinating and the slides were magnificent, colours of some of these bugs etc. in close up you would not believe - it was said how wonderful Mother Nature is. We were reminded when out walking what to look out for on the ground and in trees and bushes. The comment was this was the best speaker we have had recently and I am sure he will be invited back for one of his other talks. Refreshments were then served by Jill Vallis and Liz Falconer and the raffle and 'Flower of the Month' winners were announced. Members were reminded that our March meeting was to be our 102<sup>nd</sup> Birthday and they should turn up with a not too full stomach for an interesting evening. This evening is for members only.

Anyone interested in finding out more about WI locally, in Oxfordshire and nationally, please contact Linda Needle on 01869 340028.

**Linda Needle**, President

## Deddington Guides Report

A quick round up of news this month. Our new younger members of the unit are flourishing in their own patrol, - showing themselves very capable of planning and organising their own activities. Their most popular making "slime" then "mocktails".

Everyone else has been busy too, and we have had lots of activities and discussions around issues such as diversity, the environment, and topical news items. Our Young Leaders have done very well organising games and challenges. We have also begun to work on our end of term entertainment for charity and are looking forward to celebrating "pancake day" and Thinking Day. We hope to meet with sister Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from neighbouring villages to celebrate Thinking Day together during the half-term break.

All girls over 10 are welcome to join us,  
Tuesdays 7 to 9pm, Windmill Centre Deddington

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## Child's Play Answers

### A Seasonal Crossword Puzzle



## Mind Games Answers

1. A stitch in time saves nine.
2. Old habits die hard.
3. Despite, ignite, iolite, polite, erudite and granite
4. Active
5. Bluebottle, carvery, gangway and cartridge.
6. Spring

*Credit: MENSA*



# The Cricket Report



## Lifetime Averages...

Here are the Lifetime Batting Averages, which include only those still playing for the club:

	<b>Players</b>	<b>Total Runs</b>	<b>Outs</b>	<b>Lifetime Average</b>	<b>100s</b>	<b>50s</b>
Toby	Parker	329	4	82.25	1	2
Jamie	Longman	718	14	51.29	2	2
Rob	Wilson-Fry	1143	31	36.87	1	5
Jeremy	Farrar	775	22	35.23	1	6
Peter	Higgins	1891	54	35.02	1	12
Olly	Doggett	312	9	34.67		2
Jon	Scotchbrook	2799	88	31.81	3	20
Arthur	Higgins	391	13	30.08	1	2
Mark	Mills	490	17	28.82	1	4
Hector	Higgins	55	2	27.50		
Greg	Renk	1098	45	24.40		4
Nigel	Doggett	924	38	24.32		5
Bob	Longman	47	2	23.50		
Stan	Owen	971	42	23.12		2
Tom	Chesser	189	10	18.90		1
Charlie	S-J	36	2	18.00		4
Ben	Ramos	262	15	17.47		1
Nick	Entwistle	453	26	17.42		1
Chris	Watson	144	9	16.00		
Will	Doggett	106	8	13.25		
Mark	Parker	129	11	11.73		
James	Liebrecht	56	5	11.20		
Jock	Shepherd	105	10	10.50		
Graham	Bullen	250	24	10.42		
Phil	Chesser	344	36	9.56		
Charlie	Scotchbrook	44	5	8.80		
Jack	Higgins	59	7	8.43		
David	Stewart	22	3	7.33		
Sam	Hatz	74	12	6.17		
Jonty	Renk	90	16	5.63		
Paul	Nicholaides	16	3	5.33		
Paul	Longman	128	25	5.12		
Hugo	R-T	9	3	3.00		

Many thanks to Jon Scotchbrook for helping me to compile them - it is a labour of love! Next month the Bowling. An error by me last month for which my apologies to Stan Owen and Jeremy Farrar, whose 2019 batting averages I hid by mistake. My Excel spreadsheet ability has always been suspect! Here they are:

<b>Batting 2019</b>		<b>RUNS</b>	<b>Out</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Batted</b>	<b>50s</b>
Jeremy	Farrar	89	2	44.50	2	1
Stan	Owen	139	4	34.75	3	1

**Peter Higgins, Chairman**





## THE VALENTINE CLUB

Back in January we had our first meeting where new members joined our group and we were entertained by Rob Daniels and his dog where we learned all about the hearing dogs for deaf people. This was a fascinating presentation and very informative and at times, very moving. The next Tuesday we were invited by Dr Radcliffe's School to attend class six's performance of "Christmas is forever – Secret agent 00P's" and what a performance. Credit must go to these amazing youngsters who would do 'The West End' theatres proud and of course Guy Brigg, class six tutor, for his professional guidance.

Our meeting in February brought us fish and chips and homemade puddings followed by a few games of bingo and enjoyed by everyone as usual. For this month we welcome Ann Sharman who is going to tell us all about her experiences when she went to a wedding in Delhi. Our first trip of the year is in April when we are going to visit Aerospace Bristol where, amongst many other exhibits is the last Concorde to fly and we will have the chance to board the aircraft and have a glimpse into the cockpit.

If you want more information about the club, have a look on our very own website at [www.valentineclub.wixsite.com/aston](http://www.valentineclub.wixsite.com/aston) or give me a call.

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



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**Why not pop along with your tools to our stall at the Spring Show on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March.**

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# Church Services

## March 2020

	North Aston	Steeple Aston	Tackley
<b>Sunday 1st March</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
<b>Sunday 8th March</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Family Service Rev Marcus Green	<b>11am</b> Family Service with Baptism Rev Marcus Green	<b>5.30pm</b> Holy Communion Rev Marcus Green and Canon Robin Gibbons
<b>Sunday 15th March</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>Mothering Sunday 22nd March</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Morning Prayer Rev Stephen Pix	<b>11am</b> Morning Prayer With Children's Church Rev Marcus Green	<b>9.30am</b> Family Communion Rev Marcus Green
<b>Passion Sunday 29th March</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 Canon Robin Gibbons and Richard Bailey
<b>Palm Sunday 5th April</b>	<b>9.15am</b> Palm Sunday Procession and Family Service Rev Marcus Green	<b>11am</b> Palm Sunday Family Service Rev Marcus Green	<b>10.30am</b> Joint Service with Tackley Methodist Church
<b>Maundy Thursday 9th April</b>			<b>7.30pm</b> Maundy Thursday Communion
<b>Good Friday 10th April</b>		<b>12 noon</b> Reflection at the Cross	
<b>Holy Saturday 11th April</b>	<b>7.30pm</b> Bach & St John: The story of the cross from St John's Gospel read out, interspersed with music by Bach		



# Local Info

## Steeple Aston Village Hall

	Hiring Fee	Cautions
<b>Hall (meeting night)</b>		
Represented Clubs.....	£9	
Non-Represented Clubs.....	£17	
<b>Hall Only (social occasion)</b>		
Represented Clubs.....	£32	
Others.....	£53	
<b>All Facilities (social occasion)</b>		
Village Residents .....	£65	£200
Represented Clubs.....	£65	£200
Others - up to 6 hours.....	£110	£300
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

March	April
5 <sup>th</sup> green	2 <sup>nd</sup> green
12 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown	9 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown
19 <sup>th</sup> green	16 <sup>th</sup> green
26 <sup>th</sup> blue and brown	23 <sup>rd</sup> blue and brown
	30 <sup>th</sup> green

## 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

Cautions 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>MARCH</b>			
Sunday 8th	Crafternoon Tea	Village Hall	2 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 10th	WI: Birthday night and alpacas	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>Sunday 15th</b>	<b>SAL April issue copy and advert deadline</b>		
Monday 16th	Parish Council meeting	Committee Room	7.30pm
Tuesday 17th	Valentine Club: "I went to a wedding in Delhi" by Ann Sharman	Village Hall	2.30pm
Tuesday 17th	Garden Club meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm for 8pm start
Wednesday 25th	Rewilding by George Levvy	Nicholsons	7pm
Sunday 29th	Spring Show	Village Hall	2.30pm
Sunday 29th	SACS Spring Concert: Haydn & Mozart	Church	7pm
<b>APRIL</b>			
Tuesday 14th	WI: Annual meeting and Robert Dudley	Village Hall	7.30pm
<b>Wednesday 15th</b>	<b>SAL May issue copy and advert deadline</b>		
Monday 20th	Parish Council meeting	Committee Room	7.30pm
Tuesday 21st	Valentine: Jack Maynard sings	Village Hall	2.30pm
Saturday 25th	Deddington Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am

**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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