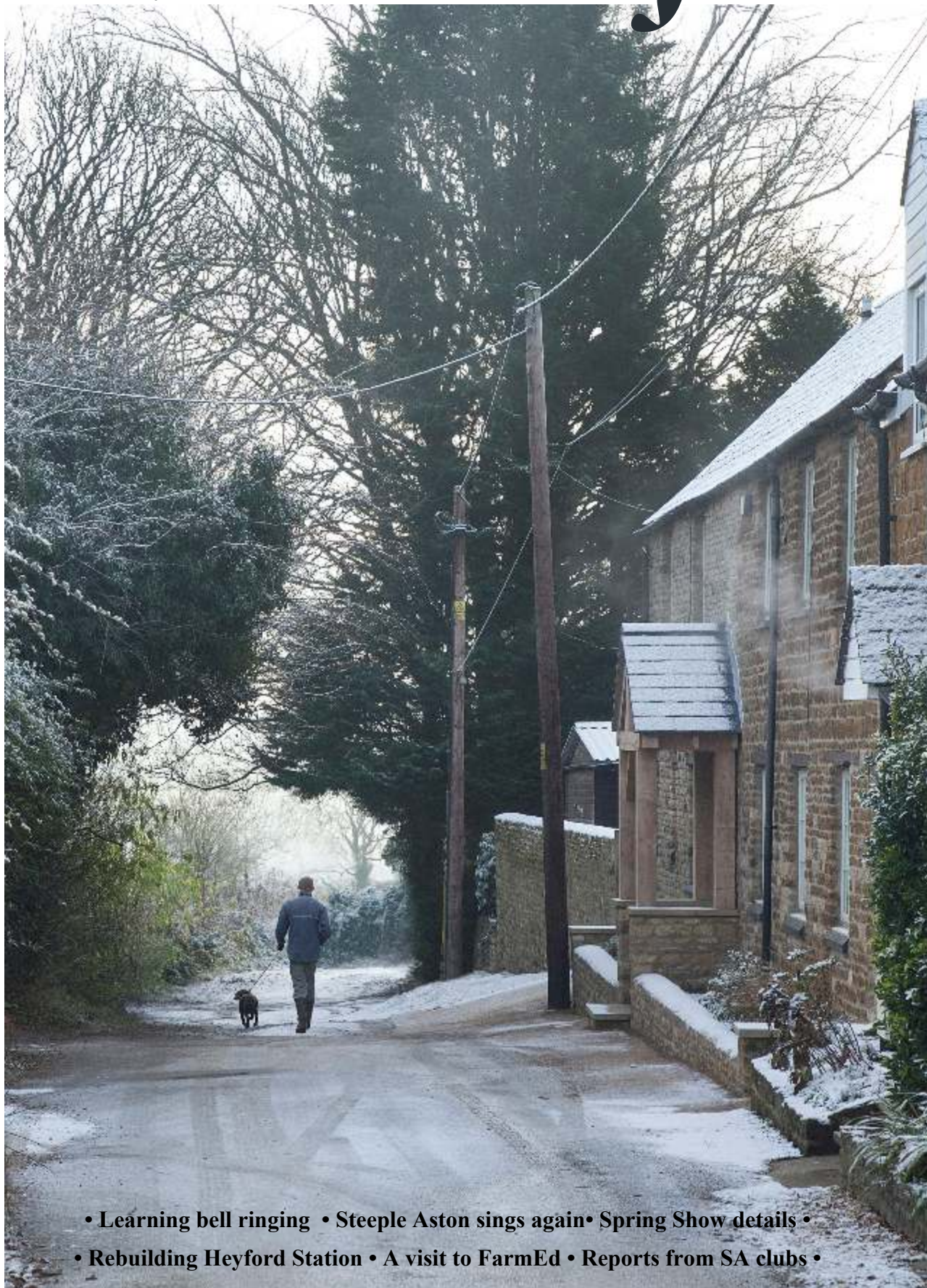


Steeple Aston *Life*

January 2022

Issue No. 581



- Learning bell ringing • Steeple Aston sings again • Spring Show details •
- Rebuilding Heyford Station • A visit to FarmEd • Reports from SA clubs •

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Cover photo: Cow Lane in the snow
taken by Nigel Francis

Steeple Aston *Life*

COPY

All articles and letters to
the Editors
editorialife@gmail.com

COPY DEADLINES

The copy deadline is the 15th of the
previous month.

The copy deadline for the February 2022
issue is therefore 15th January.

READ STEEPLE ASTON LIFE ONLINE
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Commercial adverts:
½ page- £15, ¼ page- £8

Steeple Aston Directory

Age UK		Richard Preston	340512
Allotments (Church)	SACAA Clerk	Nigel Grugeon <i>sacaacclerk@btinternet.com</i>	
Angling Club		Antony Morley	<i>tonyriver_83@hotmail.com</i>
Archive (SAVA)	Chairman	Martin Lipson	347046
Badminton (Tuesday mornings)		Barbara Brewer	340423
Badminton (Thursday evenings)		Alison Moran	347033
Beekeepers (Swarm collection, advice)		Paul Honigmann	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, Graham Clifton	340099 , 347273
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	Head Teacher	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
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	Chris Gates	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		Penny, Stuart, Sue and Graham	<i>sawgox25@gmail.com</i>
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
WI	Joint Presidents	Merrill Bayley, Cathy Lawday	347802, 347209



"...folly is not always folly."
Jane Austen

Steeple Aston *Life*

January 2022

Issue No. 581

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Editorial

"A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other." Anon.

I never set myself a new year's resolution. But I do set a new goal for the beginning of each new month. This way, I have 12 opportunities to make changes every year. And if I fail to reach a goal, I have 11 more to strive for.

It is said that the Babylonians created the concept of new year resolutions over 4000 years ago. So is there a secret to keeping them? Yes, there is – and it is the opposite to a secret. Keeping a resolution to yourself means that there is no one to monitor your progress. However, if you tell your family or social media friends about your plans, you will be more motivated to succeed.

You also need to be realistic. Cutting out cigarettes or alcohol or chocolate might be admirable (well, maybe not chocolate), but is unlikely to last more than a few days. Cutting down on your consumption, on the other hand, even by small amounts each month, is easier to achieve and could – eventually – lead to cutting out.

Apparently, the top three most common resolutions are: exercise more, lose weight and get organised. And only 46% of people who make new year's resolutions are successful. Not surprisingly, there is an acronym to help you set sensible resolutions. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-sensitive.

But don't worry if your resolutions don't make it through to February. There is always next year!

Robert

Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall (5th December). *Photo by Nigel Francis*





Cleaner required for Village Hall

The job involves an average of four hours a week at £15 per hour and work time can be flexible to fit in with the successful applicant. The contract will be for six months initially. If you are interested or require further information please contact the Village Hall secretary.

Mrs Margaret Bulleyment, telephone 347346.

Making environmental change a reality in Steeple Aston

Could you help make a difference to our local environment? Would you like to be involved in effecting some of the changes suggested in the Parish Council questionnaire?

The Parish Council would like to set up a **Village Environment Group** in 2022 to research, investigate and implement some of the ideas suggested above. We will be holding a meeting early next year to establish the membership of the group and its aims. If you would like to be involved, or even just express an interest, please email the Parish Clerk at parishclerk.steepleaston@gmail.com and we will keep you informed of further developments.

Response to the Village consultation

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who responded to the consultation questionnaire about important issues, including climate change, that the village will be facing over the next few years. Many interesting ideas were put forward and questions raised. Issues which respondents felt were important included:

- energy provision for public buildings
- energy provision on new build houses
- planning issues on energy efficiency in the conservation area
- street lighting
- 20mph speed limit
- home surveys on energy efficiency and information on potential grants
- wildlife and environmental surveys
- EV charging points
- a community orchard
- alternative ways of recycling waste and other products
- a car club
- community events: recycling, repair, hazardous waste collection, biodiversity, guest speakers, etc.



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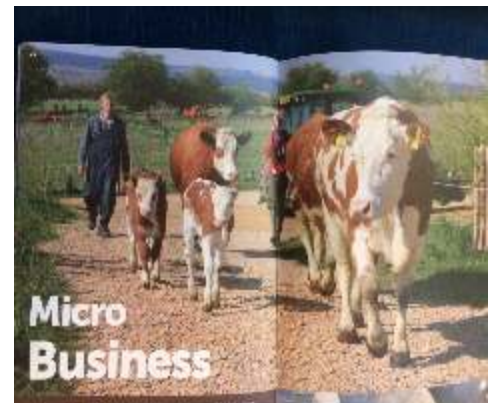
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO.....?

FarmEd

When I'm held up by a slow tractor or other piece of farm machinery, I can often be heard declaring (with thanks to Dylan Thomas) "Praise the Lord, we are an agricultural nation!". The context – and certainly the accent – may be rather different from what the Rev. Eli Jenkins was talking about in Dylan's 'Under Milk Wood', but I do feel fortunate and grateful to live in this rural community surrounded as we are by agricultural enterprises.

Although my mother's family came from farming stock, I was brought up in suburbia and so I've been learning about the business and world of agriculture ever since I came to Oxfordshire in 1966, mostly from friends who farm near here. At their kitchen table I continue to learn about the complexities of a world which is a completely different kind of life from the one most of us live. It is a life of total immersion in the job, especially if there are animals to be cared for.

I have recently come across another place where one can learn about farming and the food farmers produce. FarmEd is a new centre for Farm and Food Education, based at Honeydale Farm, Station Road, Shipton-under-Wychwood. The modest entrance – you turn off the A361 Chipping Norton to Burford road just above Shipton – leads you to discover a range of rather beautiful buildings. They provide a variety of spaces and places for learning about how 'sustainable farming and food systems that nourish people and regenerate the planet' can be developed, as the FarmEd brochure explains. The exciting brainchild of Ian and Celine Wilkinson, this not-for-profit organisation is a Community Interest company which exists to offer opportunities for education, research and for the public and practitioners to learn about the possibilities and benefits of regenerative agriculture.



Although FarmEd is in its infancy, dating only from 2018, it has already attracted visits from politicians, from interested parties such as Prue Leith and from the Prince of Wales. Construction of the carbon-neutral buildings was able to continue during the darkest days of the pandemic and there is already a range of projects under way. You can find out about these by looking on the FarmEd website – farm-ed.co.uk

I'm interested to follow the development of one of several microbusinesses – a small herd of Fleckvieh cattle of Austrian origin famed for producing excellent milk and beef. Hallam, the young man who cares for the cows, already selling milk from them and planning to make ice cream soon, is being offered a route into a farming career by gaining experience here. Other microbusinesses are run by beekeepers, bakers, vegetable growers and cooks.

Did I mention that there's a café where you can drop in for coffee and cake (and soon for lunch, too) or you might care to book to join the Friday Farm Walk and picnic when you'll get a fuller picture of what FarmEd is all about. As a window into the kind of sustainable agriculture and food production the country needs to be promoting and developing for the future, FarmEd is a fascinating initiative – and certainly gives one a picture of the sort of agriculture which the Rev. Eli Jenkins could not imagine in his wildest dreams, but which will ensure that we continue to be an agricultural nation!

Eileen Baglin-Jones

Learning bell ringing

Following on from Graham Clifton's invitation in SAL for new people to join the Steeple Aston bellringers, I thought it would be useful to share my experience of learning to ring.

First let's dispel some myths. You do not need to be strong – most of our bells can be rung by a child (our current youngest ringer is 12 years old) and there is no swinging from ropes in the rafters. You don't need to be mathematical, though counting to eight is useful. Finally, ringing doesn't require any great musical skill. There is no sheet music, you play only one note, and the only rhythm that we are aiming for is uniform separation. You might think from this introduction that there is little to learn and you will have it mastered in a couple of weeks. I assure you that is not the case.



The first thing that you learn is to pull the rope. That sounds easy, but it will take more practice than you expect. It is a two-step action pulling the Sally (fluffy bit) first and then the Tail (end of the rope). Pull too hard and the bell bounces at the end of its swing, too gently and it doesn't swing far enough and returns before you tell it to. Once you are confident, you join the other ringers in a circle, learning not to overtake the person ahead of you or slow down and cause a traffic jam behind you.

Next you learn to ring 'changes'. This involves a conductor calling out instructions for you to swap with another ringer – one of you speeds up for a moment as the other slows down. You start to also think about what is happening around you. Who are you following now? Who might they swap with next? Our patient tower master always knows what everyone is doing and what they should be doing and can be called upon for directions.

The next skill is to 'hunt'. This time you are responsible for knowing who you are to swap with without being told. Fortunately, the order is simple, fixed and somewhat like a Maypole dance. You also start to learn the hitherto mythical 'rope sight' – the ability to see who is just ahead or behind you out of a cascade of six or eight ropes pulled within a few seconds of each other.

With those skills you are ready for 'methods'. These are simple patterns for who swaps with whom, but because the 'who' is based on the current ringing order, not their position in the room, this takes time to master. There are enough methods of varying complexity to keep you busy developing your skill for many years. Along the way you get to ring at other churches, the occasional wedding and get to wake the village up on Sunday mornings.

Fortunately, we are blessed in Steeple Aston with a knowledgeable teacher and a group of ringers who are very tolerant of learners' many mistakes. Steeple Aston also benefits from a nice set of bells – at other churches you will find a surprising variety of awkward ringing spaces, clanging bells, jittery ropes and low ceilings that make you appreciate home. If you were ever interested in learning this historic (and peculiarly English) skill, Steeple Aston is an excellent place to start.

We practise most Tuesdays at 7.30pm. Come along to try it out.

Jon McLoone

<https://steepleastonbellringers.com/>



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PLAYGROUND STEWARDS/CLEANERS

The Parish Council is still looking for people to act as stewards/cleaners for the playground and the public toilet. We are now looking to employ a **small team** of three or more people who would carry out the duties part-time on a rota basis.

We expect the tasks involved to take an hour a day. Hours will be negotiable, but we anticipate each team member will work 10-12 hours a month. Members will be directly employed by the Parish Council on a PAYE basis. Equipment, supplies and cleaning products will be provided.

Tasks will include:

- sweeping up and tidying the area around the Village Hall, Sports and Recreation Centre, and the MUGA.
- daily litter collection and the emptying of litter bins when full.
- watering plants, and some weeding where necessary.
- keeping the public toilet clean and stocked.
- reporting to the Parish Council any matters that need attention.

The posts will suit active, community-minded individuals, who have a few hours to spare, and would like to make a valuable contribution life in the village.

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To apply, or further information, contact the Parish Clerk, Cathy Fleet, on 01869 347000 or 0798 939 8838, or email parishclerk.steepleaston@gmail.com



The Gardening Spot

Happy New Year and happy gardening 2022

I was once asked what makes a good gardener? Many often underestimate the occupation of gardening. Not everyone has what it takes to be a gardener, much less a good gardener. Hard work and diligence are essential qualities, but probably the most important attribute is patience. Trust me, things don't always turn out as you might expect.

Books will suggest you plant or sow at a certain time of the year, but they can't tell you what the weather is going to be like for the next few months. Indeed, the weather presenter can't always tell you what the forecast is going to be for tomorrow with any accuracy. The compost might be too coarse, too fine or have 'wetting agent' in it, which suggests we can't work out when to water our plants.

You need patience if next door's cat scratches along your freshly drawn carrot drill or the dog chases that same cat straight through the newly-planted geraniums. One of the most frustrating things is the speed, or should I say lack of speed, of germination of those ridiculously expensive seeds that you sowed weeks ago. I remember when you could buy a packet and there was probably enough seed to plant a field. Now you must search in the bottom corner of a packet to make sure they actually put some seeds in there!

I maybe should give you some tips for the garden in January, but as my old granddad used to say, "you best keep off the ground until you can sit naked on the soil and you don't freeze". It was not quite as polite as that, but this is a family magazine!

Well, here are a few thoughts for the month until I can think of something sensible to write about. **Organic, or not organic? This is a subject that will create some debate!** Pete and Harry were talking one day. "My wife asked me to buy organic vegetables from Deddington Market," said Pete. "So, were you able to find some?" Harry asked. "Well, when I got to the market, I asked the trader, 'These vegetables are for my wife. Have they been sprayed with any poisonous chemicals?'" The trader answered 'No, you'll have to do that yourself'."

The manager of the garden centre overhears one of his nurserymen talking to a customer. "No, we haven't had any of that in ages," says the nurseryman, "and I don't know when we'll be getting any more." The customer leaves and the manager walks over to give him a telling off. "Never tell a customer we can't get them something" he says. "Whatever they want we can always get on order and deliver it. D'you understand?" The nurseryman nods. "So, what did he want?" asks the manager. "Rain" replies the nurseryman.

Finally. Albert took over an old, run-down, abandoned allotment near the church. The beds were overgrown with weeds, the shed was falling down and the greenhouse was just a frame with broken glass. During his first day of work, the vicar stopped by to bless Albert's work, saying, "May you and God work together to make this the allotment of your dreams!" A few months later, the vicar stopped by again. Lo and behold, it was completely transformed. The shed had been expertly rebuilt, vegetables were growing in neat rows and the greenhouse had been re-glazed and was full of plump, ripe tomatoes. "Amazing!" exclaimed the vicar. "Look what God and you have accomplished together!" "Yes, reverend," said Albert, "but remember what the place was like when God was working it alone!"

Richard Preston

The ARTS Page



A happy new year to all, with hopes, as we write, that Covid doesn't again compromise the arts scene in 2022. Many arts organisations are not announcing plans very far ahead, but from many previous Arts Pages you should have the websites of a wide variety of venues in our area and can keep up to date.

New year brings new thoughts and we want to take a look at the Arts Page and what it can offer. Heather and I are musicians and do not critique fellow artists' performances. You can do that! Having said that, I would flag up two wonderful student performances at the Oxford Burton Taylor Theatre of Yasmin Yeza's 'God of Carnage' and Lucy Prebble's 'The Effect'. Well worth keeping an eye on their offerings. Also, the RSC's 'Comedy of Errors' at the Barbican, boding well for their upcoming 'Much Ado About Nothing', 'Henry VI' and 'Wars of the Roses' at Stratford.

The Arts Page could be more vibrant with your input right across the board about live performances, television, streaming, exhibitions, festivals and workshops. We are bombarded with information and promotion these days, which is terrific, but sifting through and making choices often needs to rely on suggestions and enthusiasms from others to help us make choices. This page could be an exciting platform for Steeple Aston to do this.

We would love to hear from you. Do get in touch.

Nick and Heather
nicholascleobury@btinternet.com

A Poem for the New Year

by Alfred Lord Tennyson, published in 1850. It forms part of 'In Memoriam', an elegy to his sister's fiancé who died at the age of 22.

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

???? Mind Games

ANIMAL PUZZLE

Answer the questions, choosing the correct animal from the box below.

(submitted by Cathy Lawday)



1. Which animal has a gestation period of 95 weeks, the longest pregnancy of any animal?
2. Which animal lives for 100 to 200 years?
3. There are only 80 to 90 of which animal left in the world?
4. What is the fastest land animal?
5. What is the fastest bird?
6. Which animal has a name which means 'hairy man' in the language of the country where it lives.
7. Which creature kills the most people worldwide every year?
8. What can swim at 25mph?
9. Which animal makes a sound like a yodel, called a baroo?
10. Name three animals which mate for life.

bowhead whale

penguin

orang-utan

elephant

cheetah

barn owl

great white shark

basenji dog

beaver

leopard

peregrine falcon

penguin

mosquito

Answers 1. Elephant; 2. Bowhead whale; 3. Leopard; 4. Cheetah; 5. Peregrine falcon; 6. Orang-
utan; 7. Mosquito; 8. Great white shark; 9. Basenji dog; 10. Penguin, Barn owl, Beaver.

THE ASTONS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY - SPRING FLOWER SHOW 2022 - ENTRY FORM

The Spring Flower Show will be held in the Village Hall on **Sunday 20th March** from 2.30 to 4.30pm. 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 17th March**. **Late entries will be charged double and no entry will be accepted after Friday 18th March** (b) exhibits must be staged between 9 and 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.

DIVISION 1

HORTICULTURE - FOR DUNCAN CUP

1. Tulips growing in a container
2. Daffodils (longer trumpets than petals) in container
3. Daffodils (shorter trumpets than petals) in container
4. Daffodils (multi-headed) in container
5. Miniature Daffodils in container
6. Hyacinths in a container
7. Any other container grown bulb
8. Any other container grown spring flower/s of one or more variety, excluding bulbs
9. Cactus or succulent) *must be in your possession for*
10. Pot Plant Flowering) *8 weeks*
11. Pot plant foliage) *8 weeks*
12. Vase of Cut Garden Blooms
13. Container of Garden shrubs/Hedgerow/Trees Buds or Blossom, judged on variety and quality
14. 5 cut stems of Daffodils (long trumpets) any varieties
15. 5 cut stems of Daffodil (short trumpets) any varieties
16. 5 cut stems of miniature Daffodils
17. 5 cut stems of multi-headed Daffodils
18. 3 Stems of Rhubarb (tops on)
19. Container of Cut Scented Spring Flowers
20. A single cut daffodil with solitary bloom

DIVISION 2

COOKERY - FOR WI CUP

21. A savoury flan (state flavour)
22. Plaited loaf
23. 3 sausage rolls
24. A lemon tart
25. 3 egg Victoria Sandwich
26. 3 Pieces of flapjack
27. Banana bread
28. 5 Chocolate truffles
29. Seville Marmalade
30. Fruit curd (lemon, orange, lime etc)
31. 3 home produced eggs from domestic fowl (with saucer)
32. Home made lemonade in a clear bottle with a glass
33. Home made alcoholic drink in a clear glass bottle with a glass. (Shop purchased gins / vodkas to flavour are allowed)

DIVISION 3 - FLORAL ART FOR THE FLOWER CLUB SILVER TROPHY (All four classes count for the cup).

- Exhibits marked * to be staged in a niche 18" wide, 18" deep and 25" high
34. Miniature arrangement - no more than 10cm in any direction
 35. *Title - 'A country' - accessories allowed
 36. *Foliage Arrangement - no accessories allowed
 37. *Title - 'Yellow' - accessories allowed

DIVISION 4 - FOR HANDICRAFT CUP

38. Edible jewellery
39. 'Twiddle muff' for dementia patients, **to be donated to JR hospital afterwards**
40. A limerick - 'There once was a donkey called Ned' (With 8 syllables in 1st, 2nd and 5th lines and 5 syllables in 3rd and 4th lines)
41. A painting or drawing
42. Any other handicraft
43. A 'Congratulations' card
44. Photo - 'Steeple (Aston) selfie'
45. Photo - 'Patterns in nature'
46. Photo - 'A pet'
47. Photo 'Extreme weather(s)' Must be black-and-white photo

Photos - may be in colour or black-and-white for classes 44 to 46 and all photos are not to exceed 7 by 5 inches. No mounts allowed.

DIVISION 5 - NOTE NEW AGE GROUPS, age must be written on entry form.

Under 5

48. Paper plate flower
49. Painting or drawing of an Easter Egg, A4 max size
50. Decorated biscuit (biscuit can be shop purchased)

Aged 5 to 7 inclusive

51. Decorated egg, any type
52. 3 Decorated mini rolls (mini rolls can be shop purchased)
53. Painting or drawing, not larger than A4

Aged 8 to 11 inclusive

54. Dreamcatcher incorporating recycled materials
55. Painting or drawing, not larger than A4
56. A Pizza (state ingredients)

Aged 12 - 15 inclusive

57. Decorated cake, judged on taste and appearance
58. An upcycled item
59. A photo suitable for the Steeple Aston Life cover - Max 7" x 5" Winner to supply Jpeg.

Please circle the classes you wish to enter and return the entry form to Richard Preston, Primrose Gardens (behind Primrose Cottage), North Side (01869 340512) or Victoria Clifton, Bluebell Cottage (07817025948) with full entry fee by 7 pm on Thursday 17th March 2022. Extra forms are available from Richard, or village website.

Classes 1 to 47 entry fee 25p. Classes 48 to 59 entry fee 10p. Prizes first £2, second £1, third 50p

For our privacy policy see: <https://www.steepleaston.org.uk/clubs-societies/gardening/#horticultural>

ENTRY FORM

Classes 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

Name.....20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

Address.....

Tel No38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

If entering Division 5 - Age on day of Show Parent's consent to entry..... 56 57 58 59

The Spring Show 20th March 2022

It's 2022, spring is just around the corner and hopefully, after a two-year break, the Spring Show will be back in the village hall. The schedule is on the opposite page and will appear again at the beginning of March, so plenty of time to get organised and decide what you might like to enter.

Without sounding as if we are repeating ourselves, entries make the show and without your support the show will not survive. We hope the classes are self-explanatory, but if you have any queries, just ask any member of the horticultural committee, or give Richard a call on 01869 340512.

Looking even further into the future, the Annual Flower and Fun Dog Show will be held on August Bank Holiday Monday as usual, but there is an ever-growing interest in photography so we have decided to extend the number of classes and to give you plenty of time to take those amazing shots. Here are the classes.

- *Musical Connections*
- *A digitally enhanced image of a church (this is where you can use your tech skills to best effect)*
- *A panel of four photographs entitled 'Evolution'*
- *Abstract*
- *A Country Scene*
- *A portrait*



*A view of the 2020 Spring Show.
Photo: Richard Preston*

And don't forget, for all you 12 to 15-year-olds, here is your chance to take a photograph to be considered for inclusion in SAL later this year.

• 'A photo suitable for the Steeple Aston Life' – maximum 7 x 5 inches. Winner to supply JPEG image file if required.

Whatever class you might consider entering, remember, it is your entries that make the show and enables this decades-old tradition to continue.

Happy New Year Everyone.

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Heyford Station is to be rebuilt!

By our reporters: Tim Part, Project Manager, and Chris Adamson of Friends of Heyford Station
Longer term residents of the villages around Lower Heyford may remember that Heyford Station used to have a stone station building which was removed 35 years ago. But it still exists – in pieces – at Didcot Railway Centre where re-building is about to begin. The project is being led by Tim Part, who, remarkably, was one of a team of about 12 volunteers who painstakingly took the building apart in 1985 and stored all of the pieces for later re-use.

The History of Heyford Station.....so far

Heyford Station was opened, along with the Great Western Railway's (GWR) Oxford to Banbury line, on 2nd September 1850. In 1852, substantial stone buildings were erected at Heyford, the main building located to serve the Banbury-bound platform.

The Heyford Station building was of a typical Brunel design for the GWR. These buildings featured a recessed section on the platform side, a substantial porch serving the booking office and a canopy running all round the building. A decorative feature was the provision of cast iron canopy brackets capped with a lion's head

British Railways scheduled the building for demolition in the early 1980s and following discussions with the Great Western Society (GWS) the building was carefully dismantled brick-by-brick by the GWS in 1985 and moved to the Didcot Railway Centre for future reconstruction. As the canopy had been previously removed by British Railways, the cast iron canopy brackets were recovered from Kidlington where an identical station building existed.



The building stones and bricks recovered from Heyford have been stored on pallets at Didcot in the open air for over 35 years. To aid future reconstruction work, each stone has been marked with a unique identifier which can be cross-referenced with elevation drawings of the building. Windows and other internal items of woodwork are also identified and stored in a well-ventilated area under cover adjacent to the site where the station will be rebuilt at Didcot.

In 2020, the project to reconstruct the building at Didcot was given the green light and all the required permissions could then start to be applied for.

The way ahead

The rebuilt station building will be located at one end of the demonstration line at Didcot Railway Centre. This is a length of line where steam trains can be found operating when the Railway Centre is open to the public. The hope is to use, as far as possible, volunteer help to reconstruct the building. However, some specialists will be required, namely architects, structural engineers and professional stonemasons.

As would be expected from an undertaking of this nature, the project is being led by a volunteer Project Manager, Tim Part, who as noted above was involved in the dismantling of the building way back in 1985.

The Friends of Heyford Station (FoHS) have taken an active interest in the project and Chris Adamson, who is a resident of Somerton and a member of FoHS, now spends his Thursdays and some weekends at Didcot, volunteering on the re-build.

To see the progress for yourself and/or to offer your help either as a volunteer or donor please visit <http://gwsheyford.org.uk/>



Resolution

I've made a simple New Year Resolution
though I'm not sure that I can keep it long
I've sworn that when I hear the sound of nonsense
I won't react, instead I'll hold my tongue

I give myself a day or two for certain
but after that it's anybody's guess
the problem is the sound of silly statements
those on the News and in the daily press

here's hoping that there'll be some greater wisdom
I rather hope that that will be the case
for if there's not then something is for certain
the troubles that we have will gather pace

so here's a fervent wish for all our future's
spread happiness and let our cares be few
move forward as the past slides off behind us
and make the best of twenty twenty-two

Peter Wild

New Year, New Me

I start each year with good intentions,
Full of bold resolution,
But I'm never too successful
When it comes to their execution.

I've so often intended to get fit,
Many times I've joined the gym,
I've walked, and rowed and cycled,
And gone for a regular swim.

But soon the enthusiasm wears off,
My gym trips start to lapse,
I find excuses not to go,
Good intentions tend to collapse.

I start to cheat on the diet,
As I've done so often before,
I find that I'm not eating less,
In fact I'm eating more.

I mean to see the best in people,
Develop a positive attitude,
Learn to embrace contentment,
And to practise gratitude.

I plan to improve my Tai Chi moves,
To cook healthy food every day,
To learn to sketch, to meditate,
But these all fall by the way.

Resolutions are just so much effort.
And I suspect they're a marketing scam.
So my new year's resolution this year,
Is to accept myself as I am!

Cathy Lawday

In the Kitchen



Craving something different, but not quite sure what you're in the mood for? Perhaps it's something different yet simple that takes your fancy. Maybe you want to bring a jaded palate back to life. Why not just do it with eggs? Lahori-style omelette and son-in-law eggs can work for a late breakfast, brunch or supper snack – a way to hit the taste bud spot this January.

Lahori-style sharing omelette (serves 4 to 6)

Omelette

knob of butter
6 large eggs

Spicy tomato filling

sunflower oil
small brown onion finely chopped
6 spring onions finely sliced
1 green chilli deseeded and chopped finely or 1/2 tsp chilli flakes
50g coriander leaves finely chopped
salt, ground black pepper

- Warm cooking oil gently in frying pan for the spicy tomato filling.
- Start by adding finely chopped brown onion to the frying pan to soften. Add chilli, tomato and spring onion and half the coriander to the onions and continue to sauté for a further five minutes. Remove frying pan from the heat.
- Whisk eggs
- In a large non-stick frying pan, pour in the beaten eggs, then tilt the pan to distribute the eggs evenly. Leave for 20 seconds until the eggs begin to bubble. Working quickly, use a spatula or wooden spoon to draw in the sides of the eggs to the centre, incorporating the butter.
- Gently shake the pan to redistribute the egg liquid to the pan's edges.
- When the omelette base is solid, spread the spicy tomato sauce mixture and top with remaining chopped coriander leaves.
- Serve and enjoy

Son-in-law eggs (serves 4 to 6)

6 large eggs
75 ml sunflower oil
5 large onions sliced wafer thin (remove core) – alternatively, a tub of crispy onions from the supermarket
sufficient oil to just cover onions
2 tbs tamarind concentrate
3 tbs fish sauce
4 tbs palm sugar shavings or unrefined brown sugar (e.g. light muscovado)
red chilli carefully deseeded and finely sliced
50g coriander
whole red chilli for garnish optional

Ignore steps 1 & 4 if using bought crispy onions

- For the crispy fried onions add onions and sunflower oil to frying pan before turning on the heat.
- Turn to medium heat and stir intermittently over 30 minutes until the onions turn golden. Have patience with this process.
- Prep a large plate with kitchen roll and add the golden crispening onions with a slotted spoon.
- Spread out the golden onions allowing sufficient space to cool completely.
- Put room temperature eggs in their shells in a single layer in pan with sufficient cold water to cover.
- To cook the eggs until the whites are firm but fragile and the yolks soft, bring the pot to a boil and then immediately remove it from the heat and let the eggs rest in the boiled water for exactly five minutes.
- Pour off the hot water and run the eggs under cold water until cool enough to handle. The whites will be firm but still quite fragile, so be careful when peeling.
- In a wok heat about 5cm oil.
- Pat the eggs dry. When the oil is shimmering hot, carefully slip the eggs in. Fry the eggs until golden on the outside, then drain and set aside on kitchen paper.
- To make the punchy sauce for son-in-law eggs, mix the tamarind concentrate in 2 tablespoons of water.
- Mix the water, the tamarind, the fish sauce and the sugar and bring to a gentle simmer together, until slightly thickened. Aim to get the sauce to a syrupy consistency and to have a sweet-and-sour taste. Adjust the seasoning to taste.
- To serve, halve the eggs, arrange on a serving platter or plates and pour the sauce over. Finish with a little drizzle of fried onion oil and sprinkle with the fried onions, shreds of chilli, and roughly torn coriander.
- Serve immediately and enjoy.

Steeple Aston sings again

Steeple Aston Choral Society would like to thank all its loyal followers who made the trip across to Witney Methodist Church to finally hear its *Belated Beethoven Anniversary* concert. The concert was a great success, in spite of a few hitches such as Paul Badley, conductor and tenor soloist, losing his voice.

The key to the concert was its variety and there truly was something for everyone – resounding choruses, quiet reflective pieces, a funky trumpet arrangement of *Für Elise*, delicate soprano solos, playful chamber music, rousing piano duets, and all overlaid with Dr. Paul Whittaker's lyrical and mesmerising signing.

Paul Herrington, who began organising the concert more than three years ago, presided at the organ and piano throughout and took centre stage in the second-half of the concert in which SACS, Paul Whittaker and all the instrumentalists came together to perform the world premiere of Paul's own setting of the *Gloria*. This was an appropriately exuberant piece, enjoyed by all, with which to end this uplifting evening.

Three weeks later, some of those SACS singers, now transformed into Wandering Wassailers, were led into the beautifully decorated Village Hall by Holly Viner, Village Fiddle Player, and James Marsden and Sam Martin, Village Mummers (village clowns, traditionally wearing their clothes inside out) to begin the Wassail Evening. The Junior Handbell Ringers, appearing later, added to the youthful talent of the evening.

James and Sam performed two seasonal poems, mimed to the Wassail Song, brought gold in *We Three Kings* and danced and jingled their (inside out) socks off to *Jingle Bell Rock*. Holly transformed from Village Fiddle Player for the carols, to accomplished violin player in her performance of *Mary Did You Know?* accompanied by Paul Herrington. The audience held their breath as Holly performed. Paul accompanied everyone and everything on the piano, or on his keyboard organ.

The readings ranged from the WI's performance of Cathy Lawday's delightful *Christmas Spirit* (a female view of the festive season, from the bottom of a bottle), Alan Brewer's dangerous Christmas meal served in two courses and Jeanette Cotterill's moving reading of Hardy's *The Oxen*.

SACS sang Harold Darke's *In the Bleak Midwinter* (even if it was 12 degrees outside) and Phil Livings, tenor soloist, told us how he had sung the carol as an eight-year-old schoolboy, in the presence of the composer, then Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge.



Singers and musicians at the Steeple Aston Choral Society concert

The Village Wassail



Holly Viner, Village Fiddle Player



The Junior Handbell Ringers

The Village Wassailer audience was the most enthusiastic yet at a Wassail evening and excelled in Paul Herrington's medley arrangement of seven carols to be sung in 6 minutes 6.08 seconds, with a brass band (hidden inside Paul's keyboard). All were invited to join the Choral Society on Monday evenings.

The whole programme was accompanied by mulled wine, mince pies and a hefty dose of good cheer, served up by Roger Mason and Barbara Brewer.

SACS and the VHMC would like to thank Paul Herrington for all his hard work on both occasions and to Nigel Francis for attending both events and taking photos of us all. Waes-hael!



Wassail singers



*James Marsden and Sam Martin,
Village Mummers*

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Despite the limitations imposed by Covid, Steeple Aston WI has had a good year. Over the past six months membership has increased from 26 to 40 and several other people have also expressed interest in joining us. If you would like to connect with us, please contact me.

Our preparations for Christmas started on 4th December when 12 members attended a workshop to make a welcome wreath. Lottie Baxter demonstrated the method and provided all the materials necessary and we let our creativity flow. Everyone left at the end of the morning with a wreath to be proud of.



The WI made a substantial donation of foodstuffs to Banbury Food Bank. Thank you to all the members who gave items to this worthy cause.

On 12th December a group of WI members attended the village Wassail Night and performed a poem I had written for the occasion. Called 'Christmas Spirit' it was a light-hearted look at one woman's way of surviving Christmas and was enjoyed by the audience.



Our final event of 2021 was a Christmas meal, held at Middle Aston House. We enjoyed a festive evening of good food, good friends and good conversation. Members rose to the challenge of wearing original Christmas headwear with a great variety of entries – from antlers and tiaras to a robin's nest. The prize-winner was Linda Needle, in a Chinese style red paper construction adorned with fairy lights.

I wish all our members a merry Christmas and a happy new year and look forward to seeing you at our events in 2022.


Cathy Lawday

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THE VALENTINE CLUB

Happy new year everyone. Let us hope that 2022 brings with it some joy and normality. This time last year we witnessed the first vaccine to be introduced to combat Covid and we were in 'lockdown'. What this pandemic has taught us all is how important companionship is and the ability to see other people and have a chat face-to-face. Zoom or Teams is all right, but certainly for my age group it lacks any connectivity with other members of humanity. Anyhow, enough of reminiscing about the past year or so, let us look forward to this year and what it will bring members of The Valentine Club.

First, I should report on what a fantastic Christmas dinner we all enjoyed in the village hall on the 14th December. S & J Cuisine dished up some amazing food followed by cheese and biscuits and accompanied by a glass of wine or two. We were also able to bring back Bruce Thompson to entertain us with his unique stage act bringing song, comedy and so many laughs to the 75 members in attendance. Bruce was first 'discovered' on Opportunity Knocks and New Faces before making a successful career travelling to all parts of the globe entertaining audiences and returning after a five-year gap. Dare I say, but it looks like we might have 'found' a 'new face' by the name of Kevin who was such a great sport in trying to become a one-man-band on stage and brought tears to so many eyes for so many reasons! What a resounding success made possible by such a wonderful group of retired teenagers!

This is a perfect time to thank all those who make our club such a success. We have a small but very supportive committee and three tea ladies who turn up each month to serve cake, sandwiches and copious amounts of tea and coffee. They are namely Rose, Becky and CJ and not forgetting Barbara who masterminds all the kitchen activities. We have also been very fortunate in being awarded various grants from The National Lottery, Cherwell District Council (CDC), Oxfordshire County Council and Joy for Living. We have just been notified that £1,000 has been awarded to us by CDC to enable us to get back into circulation after our enforced break.

Most importantly, the club would not be where it is today without the fantastic support it receives from its members who raise funds with our monthly raffle, helping wherever they can and, in many cases, participating in The Cherwell Lottery which in turn supports the club to the tune of over £1,000 per year. And thank you to all those other wonderful people who have purchased lottery tickets in support of our club, but are not members. You make such a difference to our ability to secure high quality speakers and entertainers.

Our first meeting this new year will be in the village hall starting at 2.30pm on Tuesday 18th January when we welcome back Paul Dumas, who is possibly the most versatile entertainer in Oxfordshire. So this is the perfect time to give the club a try if you fancy joining a group of slightly ageing teenagers who will make you very welcome. Believe it or not, the annual membership fee is only £10 a year, but we always suggest you 'try before you buy'.

The new programme is out, almost as eagerly anticipated as the next announcement from the Prime Minister. It includes six coach trips to all parts of the country and a holiday to The Isle of Wight, plus all the usual speakers and entertainers that make us the envy of all other seniors' groups in the county.

For more information about how to join The Valentine Club and, by the way, you only have to reach the grand old age of 60 years young, go to www.steepleaston.org.uk and follow the link or visit our own website www.valentineclub.wixsite/aston or simply call me on 01869 340512.

Richard Preston – Group organiser
richard.preston5@btopenworld.com





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Village Hall News



Saturday 29th January 2022 Annual Quiz Night

Ring Barbara on 01869 340423 to book your team.

Entrance fee **£2:50 per person**, maximum **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. Only 12 tables will be available, so please book early to avoid disappointment. In order for the quiz to take place we need a minimum of eight tables or we may have to cancel.

In line with the latest government announcements, all Village Hall users must now wear facemasks in all communal areas of the building. I am sure this won't come as a surprise to you and we ask for your full cooperation in making our Village Hall as safe as it can be in the face of the threat from the new Omicron Covid-19 variant.

I would be grateful if you could make everyone in your group aware of the new requirement and encourage everyone, once again, to remember 'HANDS, FACE, and SPACE'. Let's help keep each other safe into the new year. I sincerely hope we will not have to escalate Covid measures any further.

The Village Hall Committee wish you all a very happy and safe new year 2022.

Please note our letting agent is Mrs. Katie Rushworth. Telephone 01869 340196.

Email **steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com**

Collect keys from 'Touchstones', The Dickredge, Steeple Aston OX25 4RS.

Barbara Brewer – Chair

AD&D Photographic Society



Carol Henson, a local Northamptonshire photographer, was invited by her brother to photograph his band and it started a passion for standing in a music pit and capturing a moment at gigs and festivals. We learnt that the most important pieces of equipment were good noise cancelling earplugs as well as a fast lens and a camera that works well with low light. Lighting can be a real challenge.

Carol now has her own media company (We Bleed Music Media) to gain access to the front row to enable her to get those special action shots. Some musicians play to the camera whilst others totally ignore it. It was interesting to learn that most amateur photographers are only allowed to stay for three songs before having to move away from the stage. It sounded like quite hard work, the bands and artists always want to see the results and have the editorial decision for circulation, and very few pay for the images even if they use them for PR later, but it was obviously fun and the results certainly portrayed that. Look on **www.webleedmusicmedia.com** for some super images.

Our first meeting in 2022 is at the Adderbury Institute on Wednesday 5th January at 7.30pm. Chris Floyd will talk about Portrait Photography. Everyone is welcome so, check on the website for further details or a venue change due to a change in Covid regulations.

Anne Hunsley
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The Cricket Report



We are moving....

Very sadly, Steeple Aston Cricket Club will be moving from our beautiful Barton Abbey ground to take up a ground share with Great Tew CC. We held an Extraordinary General Meeting in October and agreed by nine votes to nil with one abstention that the club simply had to move. There are many reasons, but the main one is that it has become too time-consuming and too expensive to maintain the ground and provide a pitch that is conducive to great cricket matches.

Two years ago, Barton Abbey CC, who paid for half of the expenses, folded and since then a small group of us have been responsible for preparing the ground. This takes many hours of work from 'putting the pitch to bed' for the winter, to spring cuts and then endless hours of mowing, seeding, weeding, loaming and rolling. The costs are extensive, from buying loam, seed, fertiliser and petrol to maintaining the three mowers. Last season was exacerbated by the fact that according to the Estates Manager at Barton Abbey, they had their best year for hay in 50 years. Good news for them, but not for us as the grass became too thick to cut. We then had to pay the Estates Manager £150 just to take the top off the grass, so that we could even use the gang mower, which also needed maintaining a second time, because it had been used so much. And all this for three or four home games a season.

Why Great Tew CC...?

First, we have always had a great relationship with the members of the Tew club, many of whose members actually live in Steeple Aston, and they were delighted when we approached them about sharing their ground. They have been struggling of late to get a Sunday team out, even though their League Teams are thriving, so we will most likely play most of our home games on the 1st XI pitch, one of the best cricket pitches in Oxfordshire. The cost of ground maintenance will now be halved and we won't have to do any pitch preparation, as an expert is paid to do that. In addition, there are nets on the site and, of course, a full bar and food preparation areas. We are hopeful that with such amenities, more of you may even come and watch us! Great Tew also has a wonderful setting, too.

I can hear some of you say, "Won't we get lost at Tew and lose our identity?". We, of course, are only too aware of this and discussed it at length with Dave Freeman, Chair of GTCC. He has reserved some space in the Clubhouse for Steeple Aston CC, for our Honours Boards (we now have to make some!) and photos of previous Lord's Taverners games, and has assured us that Tew has absolutely no designs on subsuming our club into theirs. We will retain our identity, that special village feel, those family affiliations and our cricketing ethos – play hard, but fairly, with a smile on our faces regardless of whether we win or lose.

2022 Season...

Phil Chesser, our Fixtures Secretary, is already working on our fixtures for 2022, but we hope our first game at Great Tew CC will occur in early May. We hope very much to see you all there for a cup of tea and cake, or a burger, or a beer or a gin and tonic. Come on, it will be fun!

All the best.

Peter Higgins
Chairman

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Church Matters



I'd like to begin the new year with a huge thank you to all of you who have sent good wishes and kind thoughts my way over the past few weeks. At the end of October I had a brief, rather nasty cold and a couple of days later as I drove to Deddington Health Centre on a routine visit I suddenly had severe chest pains and ended up in hospital.

I'm going to be fine and everything is being dealt with by medication – so no surgery or anything like that needed – but despite my best efforts to get back to doing what I do, I was signed off all my duties and told to rest up till the end of the year, when a long-planned sabbatical kicks in. I have some writing, some travelling, some time here and some time away planned from the start of January until the end of March. You might see me around occasionally, but I am not available for parish matters till the beginning of April.

I'm very grateful to our churchwardens Eileen and Graham and to all the visiting clergy who have kept our services across the benefice going while I have been unwell and who will continue to do so for the next couple of months. Especially, thanks to Revd Jeremy Auld, our area dean, who has been terrific, and to Bishop Gavin who has been very kind and thoughtful.

It's hard to step back when you are used to being the person people rely on. It's hard to stop when there is so much to do. When there is so much going on, it's difficult to let other people down just because you need to look after yourself.

And – honestly – we all deal with this differently. Many of us are tired anyway after almost two years of the pandemic. Some of us are exhausted. Some wish that a bit of 'me time' were possible, but family and work and just *life* means it is not. I realise that I am really, really lucky - or perhaps I might prefer *fortunate* – to have been where I was when the chest pains happened and to have had such support from work and people around me, and to have had the possibility of a three-month sabbatical already planned into my diary. What a gift.

But all of us, at the start of a new year, with everything that is going on, need to appreciate that we matter. All of us. Enormously. We need to find even just a couple of minutes every day to know that we are precious, loved, valuable to God and not just because we serve a purpose, but because we are people. Human beings. Each of us different to the next and each of us as wonderful – and fragile.

I don't know what your Resolutions are this year, but may I suggest you find a moment to pray each day and thank God for something or someone – and also remember that you are loved? Loved by friends and family – loved by God. Sometimes we need to remember we are precious before we treat ourselves well – and how can we help others if we don't treat ourselves well?

Of course, I have no crystal ball, so I've no idea how long the pandemic will be with us, adding its threatening cloud to all our days. Here's hoping 'not long' is the right answer. But however long, here are some words of Jesus that last longer:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

More news is always available on our website: www.sntchurch.com

Revd Marcus Green

Churchwardens' Chat

Many of you will know that our Rector, Marcus Green was unwell towards the end of 2021 and unable to take all the services planned. Now, after serving as our priest and at churches in other parts of the country for over 25 years, he is taking a sabbatical for three months and will be away until the end of March. We hope very much that Marcus will soon be returned to full health so that he can make the most of his sabbatical and achieve the plans he has made, returning to us in full health and with renewed energy.

As we write, we are looking forward to the traditions of the Christmas services – as you read, we hope you will have warm memories of the joy of the real meaning of Christmas and of your celebrations. Perhaps you are remembering the music of the Carol Service, planned to remind us of the Christmas story and to give time for reflection about the events which followed when ‘Love came down at Christmas’.

Or were you present at the magic of the Christmas Eve Crib service – usually lively and busy as children bring the models of the people we know came to welcome the baby Jesus in that stable (or possibly cave) and build the tableau in our Crib? Or what about Christmas morning when, welcomed by the bells, we sang ‘Christ was born today’ and once again thought about what it has meant for the Light of Christ to come into the world to guide us in our relationships and how we behave to one another. We hope that you have spotted our star above the church tower too!

Marcus spent time in early autumn making careful arrangements for colleagues and available clergy to come to take our services. You can see the schedule on the opposite page with some familiar and some less familiar names. Do come to join us at services when you can. Everyone is welcome. As Marcus reminds us – God Loves Everyone! We look forward to seeing you!

Graham Clifton, Eileen Baglin-Jones, Churchwardens



The church in snow. Photo by Angela Smith.

Church Services

	North Aston	Steeple Aston	Tackley
Sunday 2nd January Epiphany		11am Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Rev'd Stephen Pix	
Sunday 9th January	9.30am Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	11am Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	5.30pm Holy Communion Rev'd Jeremy Auld
Sunday 16th January		10.30am United Benefice Holy Communion Rev'd Richard Armitage	
Sunday 23rd January	9.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Andrea Russell	11am Holy Communion Rev'd Andrea Russell	5.30pm Evensong Rev'd Stephen Pix
Sunday 30th January Candlemas	9.30am Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	11am Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	9.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Andrew Bunch
Sunday 6th February	9.30am Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Canon Charles Chadwick	11am Holy Communion <i>Book of Common Prayer</i> Canon Charles Chadwick	5.30pm Evensong Rev'd Jeremy Auld
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	Hiring Fee	Caution
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Non-Represented Clubs.....	£17	
Hall Only (social occasion)		
Represented Clubs.....	£32	
Others.....	£53	
All Facilities (social occasion)		
Village Residents	£65	£200
Represented Clubs.....	£65	£200
Others - up to 6 hours.....	£110	£300
Others - over 6 hours.....	£160	£300
All Facilities (off peak - 4 hours)		
Village Residents	£30	£75
Represented Clubs.....	£30	£75
Committee Room		
Represented Clubs.....	£6	
Non-Represented Clubs.....	£12	
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Rubbish bin collection day is Thursday

January 2022*

6th green
 13th blue & brown
 20th green
 27th blue & brown



February 2022*

3rd green
 10th blue & brown
 17th green
 24th blue & brown

* to be confirmed (as we go to press Cherwell District Council has not published their bin collection calendar for 2022).

Steeple Aston Sport & Recreation Centre Letting Charges

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 0702 0800 0844 1003 1603 1702 1802 1902 2010 2125 2255

Saturdays

0704 0804 0919 then hourly to 1819 1932 2047 2217
 0746 0846 1002 1902 2010 2125 2255

Sundays and most public holidays

0903 1033 1203 1333 1503 1633 1803
 0944 1114 1244 1414 1544 1714 1844

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 0835 0935 1035 1535 1638 1738 1838 1929 2024 2135 2250 0020

Saturdays

0759 0857 0957 then hourly to 1557 1657 1757 1855 1955 2107 2222 2352
 0835 0935 1035 1635 1731 1831 1924 2024 2135 2250 0020

Sundays and most public holidays

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Steeple Aston Calendar

Check the village website at www.steepleaston.org.uk (Home > Calendar) for any changes.

January 2022			
Wednesday 5 th	AD&D. Chris Floyd talks about portrait photography	Adderbury Institute	7.30pm
Thursday 6 th	WI. Coffee	Red Lion	10.30am
Tuesday 11 th	WI. The work of Cruse bereavement volunteers	Village Hall	7pm
Saturday 15th	SAL February 2022 copy and advert deadline		
Tuesday 18 th	Valentine Club. Paul Dumas – comedy & song	Village Hall	2.30pm
Saturday 22 nd	Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am to 12.30pm
Wednesday 26 th	WI. Pub lunch	tbc	12.30pm
Saturday 29 th	Annual Quiz Night	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
February 2022			
Wednesday 2 nd	AD&D. Will Gray on British Wildlife Adventures (p34)	Adderbury Institute	7.30pm
Tuesday 15th	SAL March 2022 copy and advert deadline		
Tuesday 15 th	Valentine Club. Jackie Maynard, international singer	Village Hall	2.30pm
Saturday 26 th	Farmers' Market	Deddington	9am to 12.30pm

Due to coronavirus some clubs and societies might still be meeting online.
Please contact the organisers for the most up to date information. Contact details
can be found on page 2.

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). 10am - 12pm - Saturdays

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