

# Steeple Aston *Life*

October 2022 Issue No. 590



- HM Queen Elizabeth II – memories from village residents •
- Photos and results from the Horticultural Society Annual Show •



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Cover: Wychwayz Morris Dancers at the Annual Show on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022. Photo by Nigel Francis.

### Steeple Aston *Life*

#### COPY

All articles and letters to the Editor  
[editorsalife@gmail.com](mailto:editorsalife@gmail.com)

#### COPY DEADLINES

The copy deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

This means the copy deadline for the November 2022 issue is 15<sup>th</sup> October.

READ STEEPLE ASTON LIFE ONLINE  
<https://www.steepleaston.org.uk/sal-magazine>

#### ADVERTISING

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 RATES

$\frac{1}{4}$  page - £8

$\frac{1}{3}$  page - £11

$\frac{1}{2}$  page - £15

Full page (village events only) - £15

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Age UK		Richard Preston	340512
Allotments (Church)	SACAA Clerk	Nigel Grugeon	sacaaclerk@btinternet.com
Angling Club		Antony Morley	tonyriver_83@hotmail.com
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
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Choral Society	Chair	Ann Livings	233518
Church of England (St Peter & St Paul)	Rector		
	Churchwardens	Eileen Baglin-Jones, Graham Clifton	340099 , 347273
Methodist Church – Tackley		Rev Paul Carter	01865 243216
	Steward	Tim Bailey	01869 331516
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		Cllr Bryn Williams	07836 271998
		Cllr Hugo Brown	
Cricket Club	Chairman	Peter Higgins	347493
Crimestoppers			0800 555111
Deddington Guides		Marian Trinder	340806, 07786 001641
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
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Public House	Red Lion		340225
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Scouts Group		Colin Cassford	243038
Sports & Recreation Centre	Letting Agent	Angela Smith	07734 112967
Steeple Aston Walking Group		Penny, Stuart, Sue and Graham	sawgox25@gmail.com
Toddler Group		Charlotte Clarke	07799 030490
Valentine Club		Richard & Daphne Preston	340512
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Village EmergencyTelephone System			690691
Village Website	<a href="http://www.steepleaston.org.uk">www.steepleaston.org.uk</a>	Editor: Jenny Bell	347714
Volunteer Connect - Community transport scheme			0300 3030125
WI	President	Cathy Lawday	347209





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

## Steeple Aston *Life*

October 2022  
Issue No. 590

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# Editorial

*"I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."*

Queen Elizabeth II (1926-2022)

The news of the Queen's passing was not unexpected, but still a shock. Followed by sadness. Apart from a few early years when I was too young to be aware of King George VI, my life – as for many – has been lived under the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, and now King Charles III.

It is the end of the second Elizabethan age and the beginning of the second Carolean era. The name originates from Carolus, the Latin word for Charles. It was used to describe the reign of King Charles II (1660 to 1685). Some sources include Charles I (1625 to 1649) in the first Carolean era, but others say his was the Caroline era. The reign of Charles II saw the start of the Restoration period, following the end of The Protectorate when a Lord Protector governed England as a republic. The first and best-known Lord Protector was Oliver Cromwell.

There was some discussion among the Steeple Aston Life committee as to whether a photo of the Queen should be used on the cover of this issue. In the end, it was felt that we could not compete with the extensive television, newspaper and magazine coverage. However, you will find that the centre four pages of this issue are devoted to the recollections of village residents who met – or had close encounters – with Her Majesty.

Among the many instances of respect paid to the Queen in the village was the ringing of fully muffled church bells – along with hundreds of other churches around the country – at 12 noon on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September. This was the first time any of the ringers had been involved with fully muffled ringing, as it is only done for the passing of a monarch. The ringers (below), were Malcolm Hensher, Joe Burchell, Dorothy Clifton, Vicky Clifton, Keith Thomas, Diana Gardner, Sally Cooper and Graham Clifton.

*Robert*

*Photo: Graham Clifton*



# Steeple Aston Noticeboard



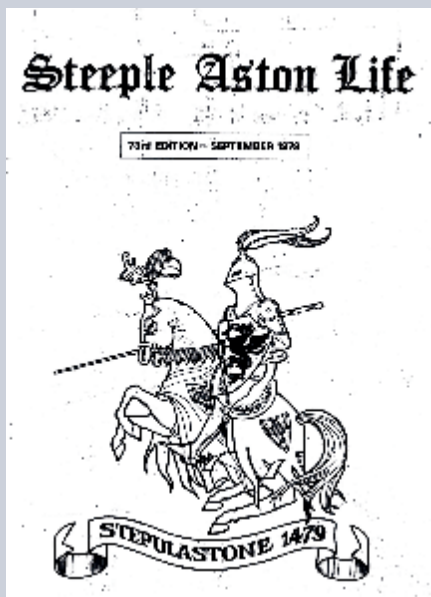
## Steeple Aston Life needs you!

Next year will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of Steeple Aston Life. Issue No.2 was dated May 1973, with issue No.3 published in October 1973 and issue No.4 in December 1973. But where is issue No.1? We don't know. Despite many searches and requests, we have never been able to track it down. If you have a copy tucked away in a shoebox or stashed in an attic, please let us know. Issue two was only three pages long, so it is possible that the first issue was two sides of a single A4 sheet.

The early issues were not published monthly, so we do not know exactly when the first issue appeared. Despite this, we are going to celebrate the SAL anniversary in the March 2023 issue. Do you have any special memories of the newsletter, either from the 1970s and 1980s, or more recently, or were you involved in its production? We would love to hear from you.

We also welcome contributions relating to Steeple Aston and Middle Aston or surrounding areas. These can be short items or longer articles, with or without photographs.

Send everything to [editorsalife@gmail.com](mailto:editorsalife@gmail.com)



*An early SAL cover. We hope to have more information about this next March.*

## South Side Observatory – Stargazing Evenings 22<sup>nd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm to 11.30pm

On clear evenings during half-term, South Side Observatory will be opening to villagers interested in having a closer look at the stars and planets visible in the dark night skies above us. Families with children are particularly welcome. Saturn and Jupiter will be available to see in the earlier part of the evening, with Neptune and finally Mars rising later.

Fellow enthusiasts with their own telescopes are invited to bring them along and set up in the garden for shared observing sessions. Please arrive on foot (there is no suitable parking nearby) and wrap up warmly as clear nights can be surprisingly cold.

For more information or any questions, please call 01869 347883 or email [tvh.observatory@btinternet.com](mailto:tvh.observatory@btinternet.com)





# Steeple Aston Noticeboard



## Parish Council meeting

The Parish Council meeting scheduled for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September was moved to Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Unfortunately, this means that we are unable to publish the usual Steeplejack report in this issue.

The draft minutes will be available 10 to 14 days after the meeting. You can find them at:  
<https://www.steepleaston.org.uk/parish-council/minutes/>

## Back in time

Clocks go back one hour at 2am on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022. This marks the end of British Summer time (BST) for the year and a return to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

BST was introduced in 1916 and every year there is a debate as to the benefits and disadvantages of changing the clocks. Between October 1968 and October 1971, Britain remained on GMT +1. Research suggested that while there was an increase in road accidents in the morning, there were substantially fewer accidents in the evenings. There have been recommendations that BST be maintained during the winter months and double summertime (GMT +2) be applied during the summer months, potentially saving half-a-million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year. However, this would mean that sunrise in Scotland would not be until 10am, or later, affecting children going to school and people travelling to work. The debate goes on.

## Passports, stamps and money

Following the passing of Queen Elizabeth II there have been questions about the future of the many items which feature her portrait. Here are some of the answers.

**Passports.** Although UK passports do not include an image of the Queen, they carry the message: "Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State requests and requires in the name of Her Majesty all those whom it may concern to allow the bearer to pass freely without let or hindrance, and to afford the bearer such assistance and protection as may be necessary." These passports remain valid, but for new passports the wording will be changed to 'His Majesty'.

**Stamps.** For more than 55 years, Royal Mail postage stamps have carried a profile of the Queen. These stamps can still be used for letters and parcels, though keep in mind that most stamps without a barcode will not be valid after 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 (there are exceptions for special issues and commemorative stamps). If you are unable to use all your old stamps by the end of January 2023, you can swap them for barcoded stamps – see [royalmail.com/](https://royalmail.com/)

**Coins.** There are nearly 30 billion coins in existence, all showing the Queen's head. It is likely that these will remain in circulation for many years, only gradually being replaced by coins featuring the head of King Charles III. Older readers might recall that before decimalisation in 1971 it was quite common to find the heads of different monarchs in your change. King Charles III will face the opposite direction to that of Queen Elizabeth II, following a tradition that says that the head on coins must alternate for each new monarch.

**Bank notes.** There are around 4.5 billion Bank of England notes currently in circulation. These remain legal tender. The Bank of England will give plenty of notice of any change.



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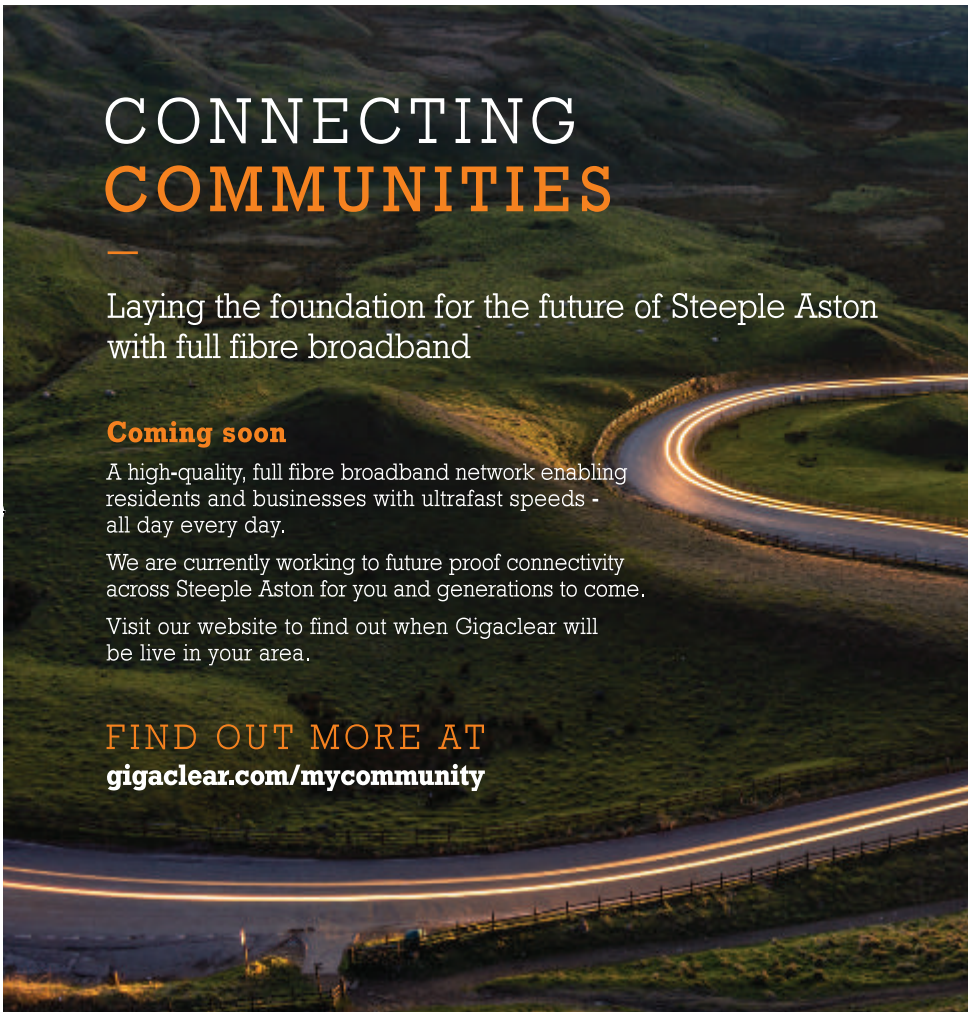
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# Letter from *Westminster*



*SAL's bi-monthly epistle from our MP, Victoria Prentis*

The death of Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II is an enormous loss for us all. She has been a constant presence in all our lives. Seventy years on the throne made her the longest-serving monarch in our history. As we reflect on the Elizabethan age, we remember her as a guiding light of duty, service and unity.

The day after receiving the sad news, tributes were heard in the House of Commons. As I sat listening, it became clear that Her Majesty had extraordinary reach. Almost everyone had a personal memory. In my own tribute on behalf of my North Oxfordshire constituents, I remembered her address to the nation during the pandemic when, resplendent in her NHS scrub-coloured dress and brooch, Her Majesty praised “the attributes of self-discipline, of quiet good-humoured resolve and of fellow-feeling,” of our people. These are all qualities she modelled for us and for which we loved her. To them, she added a less definable quality: a presence, a splendour which came from her deep faith and her certainty that the Crown is at the very centre of our constitution. She lit up every room; I will not forget the day she came to Oxfordshire in 2008. Hundreds of people filled the Market Place in Banbury waving flags, including lots of excited school children, as she helped us mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the town’s Charter. Later that day, I met her as she opened the Oxford Children’s Hospital. In her we see a reflection of our own passions, which is why we all feel such a deep and personal sense of loss.

As we grieved for one monarch, we welcomed the reign of another whose own sense of duty is in the best traditions of his mother and his country. On Saturday 10 September, His Majesty King Charles III was proclaimed at the Accession Council at St James’s Palace in London, a historic moment which was televised for the first time. The following day, towns and cities across Britain made their own proclamation to the new king marking a new Carolean age. It was good to attend the Banbury Proclamation which took place at the Town Hall. High Steward of Banbury, and my predecessor, the Rt Hon Sir Tony Baldry led the reading with several hundred in attendance. We then managed the National Anthem with the new unfamiliar words, followed by three cheers for the new King.

The King came to address both Houses of Parliament for the first time as monarch a few days later. It was packed and full of pomp and ceremony. His Majesty spoke very clearly about the enduring example of selfless duty set by his mother. He was visibly moved when we sang God Save The King. The period of mourning will not have been easy for him, but he has undertaken his duties with strength and stoicism.

Attending the Lying-In-State was an event I’ll never forget. The silence in the vastness of Westminster Hall was extraordinary. More than 250,000 mourners filed past The Queen’s coffin over the five-day period to pay their final respects, each feeling a very personal connection.

My thoughts were with the Royal Family on the day of Her Majesty’s State Funeral. I was moved by the magnificence of the procession and the sheer number of people that lined the streets to celebrate her extraordinary reign and remarkable life. I think we all sensed just how historic this moment was. Following a day of pageantry, the committal service at St George’s Chapel at Windsor marked Her Majesty’s final farewell which concluded with her being laid to rest beside her late husband The Duke of Edinburgh.

May The Queen rest in peace and rise in glory.

God Save The King.

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Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
**Redtooth Poker League**  
Open to all, call pub for  
information

## **Elvis Tribute**

**“Tim the King”**  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
From 7.30pm

## **Half-term Halloween Party**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October from 2pm  
Children age 4 – 11 with adult  
Pumpkin carving, mask making, hot dog and drink £5.00  
Tickets available from pub from 1<sup>st</sup> October

**KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR QUIZ NIGHTS COMING UP**



# Steeple People



**How long have you lived in Steeple Aston?** I have lived full-time in Steeple since 2008.

**Where did you move from?** I went to school in London, but thought of the cottage at Rousham as home, especially after I discovered a love of horses as a 10-year-old!

**What brought you here?** My parents lived here and my husband also grew up here. Despite promising as a teenager to never live here, with a rubbish bus and train service ..... it drew me back.

**What do you like best about living in Steeple Aston?** Knowing in times of trouble we all pull together.

**Is there anything you don't like about living here?** Having to drive my kids around to get to their friends' houses.

**Give a potted history of yourself.** Born in London, fell in love with catering, worked all across the world on major events including Australian and French Rugby World cups, Ascot Racecourse and major golfing events, married my husband (who has four boys), had a daughter and now work in schools for better work-life balance.

**What do your family or friends find most annoying about you?** I'm very loud!

**What do your family or friends find most endearing about you?** I will do anything to help anyone.

**Early bird or night owl? Cat or dog? Optimist or pessimist?** Night owl, cat, optimist

**Technology: friend or foe? To marmite or not?** Friend and YES.

**What was the best thing about being a child?** My amazing parents.

**What is the best thing about being an adult?** My whole extended family.

**What was your first job?** Waitress at the Holt Hotel.

**What do you do for a living now?** I run the catering at Kingham Hill School.

**What is the best job you've ever done?** Regional Event Manager Rugby World Cup Australia (didn't work very hard, travelled Australia, got paid well and had a ticket for the final right in front of where Jonny kicked the winning drop goal from).

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

**What's your secret/guilty pleasure?** I waste much too much time playing Candy Crush.

**Can you recommend a really good book?** 'The First 15 lives of Harry August', by Clare North, is my favourite book.

**What would you save from your house if it was on fire?** My husband and children and, if time, a photo album my mum made of our family history.

**If you became prime minister, what law would you pass?** Immediate reversal of Brexit.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?** South America – never been and would like to visit.

**What's your favourite saying or piece of advice?** Be kind, you never know what battles people are facing.

**Who would you most like to have dinner with – dead or alive?** My wonderful dad.

**If you were on a desert island, what would you miss most?** A comfy bed (and my family, of course!).

**What do you get grumpy/mad about?** People being unkind to others – and Brexit.

**What makes you happiest in the world?** My family.

**Tell us something about you that most people don't know.** I come across as very confident, but as a child (and still to some extent) had terrible anxiety.

**Tell us a good joke.** I don't know any good jokes that aren't rude!

**Anna Thatcher**





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# The ARTS Page



Autumn and winter bring a great variety of arts events – here are a few.

Tickets are going fast at Blenheim Palace, so well worth having a look now.

- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> to Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October - visit with your friends and family as dusk falls to enjoy the fun on their Halloween Spooky Illuminated Trail.
- Christmas Dates are 18<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023, with three main events.
  - an after-dark illuminated trail, with a million lights, seasonal sounds and street vendors with lots of enticing goodies.
  - 'The Kingdom of the Snow Queen'; explore the Palace rooms, each one exquisitely transformed and filled with hidden surprises
  - the Christmas Market, with many designer/maker craft traders housed in wooden chalets in the Great Court.

Tickets must be pre-booked (limited capacity with timed entry). Visit [blenheimpalace.com](http://blenheimpalace.com) for full details.

Continuing the theme of booking early, two local pantomimes are also very popular.

- Oxford Playhouse from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 8<sup>th</sup> January. 'Cinderella', in an interesting version by Toby Hulse. "The handsome but hapless Prince Charming has left university and come back home to the Kingdom of Ox." Sounds interesting. [oxfordplayhouse.com](http://oxfordplayhouse.com)
- Chipping Norton's much-loved panto is 'Dick Whittington', written by their own John Terry. "A globe-trotting adventure, full of non-stop laughter, fantastic original music and sheer silliness." 16<sup>th</sup> November to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. [chippingnortontheatre.com](http://chippingnortontheatre.com)

Only 40 minutes away and well worth a visit is Compton Verney. "Step out of the ordinary, with 120 acres of art, nature and creativity." There is a website with excellent information on all the collections. Amongst the visiting exhibitions that caught my eye is 'Common Ground' by Reena Kallat (displays at MOMA, Tate, etc.), a "woven tapestry of themes, investigating notions of borders, migration, inequity and citizenship". It looks very interesting and runs from 20<sup>th</sup> October to 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023. [comptonverney.org.uk](http://comptonverney.org.uk)

The Oxford Playhouse ([oxfordplayhouse.com](http://oxfordplayhouse.com)) has a week for Agatha Christie fans – 'The Mirror Crack'd', from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October in a new adaptation by Rachel Wagstaff. There is also a fascinating 5pm talk by Kathryn Harkup at the Playhouse on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October – 'Weapon of Choice: Agatha Christie and poisons' – on how Christie used her extensive knowledge of drugs and medicine. This is part of the Oxford Science + Ideas Festival ([if-oxford.com](http://if-oxford.com)). Well worth a look.

Abingdon Operatic Society has the 1930's smash hit 'Me and my Girl' – winner of Olivier and Tony Awards – from 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October at the Amey Theatre, Abingdon School. Many Steeple Astonians go, so do add to their number. Worth it for 'The Lambeth Walk' alone! [abingdonoperatic.co.uk](http://abingdonoperatic.co.uk)

May I mention two Oxford Philharmonic ([oxfordphil.com](http://oxfordphil.com)) concerts in October? Oxford has so much to offer musically, that I am choosing these as the repertoire has memories for me. 13<sup>th</sup> October has the wonderful Mozart Sinfonia Concertante for Four Winds in E flat major, which I have recorded, and the glorious Dvořák Symphony No. 8 in G Major, which I conducted in my first BBC Symphony Orchestra Concert. 20<sup>th</sup> October sees the versatile John Wilson conduct Richard Rodney Bennett's 'Partita', which I recorded just after it was written. Fabulous Ravel and Vaughan Williams, too. Both events are at the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford.

Last, but definitely not least, the 'Oxford Lieder Festival', from 14<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> October, this year called 'Friendship in Song: an intimate art'. Now internationally renowned, the festival is a veritable cornucopia of music and song in a variety of wonderful Oxford venues, including the new Levine Building at Trinity College. [oxfordlieder.co.uk](http://oxfordlieder.co.uk)

I'm sure you have Steeple Aston Choral Society – highlights from the Messiah, plus carols – in your diaries for 7pm on 20<sup>th</sup> November in the church. [facebook.com/steepleastonchoralsociety/](https://facebook.com/steepleastonchoralsociety/)

For future Arts Pages, do let me have your suggestions.

**Nick Cleobury**  
[nicholascleobury@btinternet.com](mailto:nicholascleobury@btinternet.com)



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# ???? Mind Games

## Word Path Puzzles

hand								beat
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

Change the word at the start of the path to the word at the end, in five steps. Each step on the path must be a proper word, and must differ from the previous word by just one letter. There may be more than one way of doing this. (Cathy Lawday)

Example answer:

hand		sand		send		sent		seat		beat
------	--	------	--	------	--	------	--	------	--	------

1.

rack								cafe
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

2.

rush								poet
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

3.

pink								dare
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

4.

shot								flag
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

5.

cats								lush
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

6.

girl								base
------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	------

Answers: 1. rack, sack, sank, sane, safe, café; 2. rush, push, posh, post, poet; 3. pink, sink, sank, dark, dare; 4. shot, shoe, shoe, flag; 5. cats, pats, put, puss, push, lush; 6. girl, gill, gall, ball, bale, base.

THE STEEPLE ASTON RECREATION TRUST AND VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT A

# **FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR**

## **SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2022**

### **ROBINSONS CLOSE**

**Food from 6.15pm**

**Bonfire Lit 6.30pm**

**Fireworks Start at 7.00pm promptly**



**Admission including food and drink**

	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Family</b>
<b>In Advance</b>	<b>£5.00</b>	<b>£14.00</b>
<b>On the Day (Cash Only)</b>	<b>£6.00</b>	<b>£16.00</b>

U16s must be accompanied by a responsible adult

Members of the Public must not bring sparklers, fireworks or laser pens of any description

Advance tickets will be on sale from Monday 24th October from the Village Shop and Barbara Brewer (01869-340423). Sales will close at 3.00 pm on the 5th November

Proceeds will be shared between the Recreation Trust and the Village Hall





# *The Gardening Spot*

## **Autumn is here and the flower show is over for another year**

What a year for us gardeners! A fairly normal spring when everything appeared to be growing just fine and no late frosts to cut things down, so all looked good. Then summer arrived and weeks of heat and no rain. Now I know what many of you are saying. “Don’t these gardeners moan a lot”. And you are probably right as it is either too hot, too cold, too wet, or too dry. But 40 degrees centigrade and no rain, well I ask you, that simply is not normal! However, there is often an upside to these extremes. As one very eminent gardener in this village has said to me many times, “the loss of some plants or trees brings with it an opportunity to make changes”. So have a look at your garden and see what changes you might make for 2023.

With that in mind, now is the time to start the ‘clear-up’ of all those dried-up perennials and dead annuals, and all the leaves that have already fallen. Collect it all up and make compost, as this can then be fed back into your garden in a few months’ time when it has degraded into a nice mulch.

Assuming the rains have arrived by time you read this, dig over the vegetable garden incorporating as much organic matter as you can lay your hands on. Remove any old brassica stems and roots as they often carry bugs that will harm your crops next year. Cut down perennials and tidy any bushes in your borders and mulch with compost, well-rotted manure or whatever you have available. If placed on now, again, assuming it has rained, the mulch will degrade over the winter months, and you will have a nice tilth to start with next spring.

Lawns! Well, there is a challenge if it looks like mine. Ideally, you should consider scarifying, but with little or no grass left that might be a challenge too far. I think I am going to have to scarify and then over-seed the lawn to get anything like a decent patch of green grass next year, although grass takes some killing so we might be alright.

In the greenhouse it is time to take out any old tomato plants and give the glass a good clean, getting into the corners to kill off those little bugs that are waiting to breed. This is also about the last opportunity to trim the hedges, if you have not already done so.

And now I will move onto the 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Flower Show held on August Bank Holiday Monday. On behalf of the horticultural society, I would like to thank everyone who participated in any way, helped during the afternoon, or simply came along to Robinson’s Close to see what all the fuss was about. After months of preparation, the show is over for another year, but what does it say for our small committee and the villages of Steeple and Middle Aston? Some of the committee members have been doing this for years and others have joined more recently, but they all worked so hard to put this show on. To all those volunteers and family members who give their time to make this show happen, thank you!

***Richard Preston***

***Chairman of Steeple and Middle Aston Horticultural Society***

## Horticultural Society Annual Show – 29 August 2022

Not for the first time, Steeple and Middle Aston can be proud, not only for providing over 700 exhibits for the 130th Annual Flower Show, but for showing just what a village community can achieve. We estimate around 800 visitors came to view the Flower Show on Bank Holiday Monday or enter their dog in the Fun Dog Show. 'Dogs for Good' said, they had not seen so many dogs in one place for a long time and judging by the queue to enter one of the classes it was a bit like Crufts, but much better. Wychwayz Morris Dancers entertained the crowds during the afternoon and brought their own unique style of Morris dancing to Steeple Aston.

In a year when we are suffering drought conditions, it is amazing we had so many vegetable and flower entries, but as always, so well supported by the cookery, handicraft, photography and children's exhibits, not to mention the stunning floral art arrangements to accompany the teas in the Village Hall. The show has to raise around £3,000 or a bit more to cover the cost and we should have just about done that, aided by sponsorship from Finders Keepers and support from all our visitors.

**Richard Preston**

*Photos by Nigel Francis*









# HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW 2022 RESULTS

<b>Hayter Cup</b>	Geoff Rawnsley	<b>George Alder Memorial</b>	Daphne Preston
<b>Robson Cup</b>	A.Grimmett / S.Nelson	<b>Beehive Cup</b>	Mary White
<b>Wadham Cup</b>	Daphne Preston	<b>Lilley Cup</b>	Antonia Maclean
<b>Walker Cup for Show Champion</b>	Daphne Preston	<b>Jean Stone Trophy</b>	Jon Gascoyne
<b>Coronation Bowl</b>	Victoria Clifton	<b>Photography Cup</b>	Jon Gascoyne
<b>Gladys Stevens Memorial Cup</b>	Janet Coley	<b>Banksian Medal</b>	Richard Preston
<b>Scott Cup</b>	Daphne Preston	<b>Senior Children's Cup</b>	J.Marsden / O.Martin
<b>Rose Lilley Memorial Trophy</b>	Rebecca Lewin	<b>Junior Children's Cup</b>	S. Wheeler Nunneley/
<b>Lee Cup</b>	Geoff Rawnsley		James Walker
<b>Rousham Cup</b>	Andrew Grimmett	<b>Under 8s Cup</b>	Megan Walker
<b>Doug Walton Trophy</b>	Andrew Grimmett	<b>Under 5s Cup</b>	Jacob Lewin
<b>Fothergills Cup</b>	Daphne Preston	<b>Children's Photography</b>	Isabella Reid
	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>
4 tomatoes	Spyro Markesinis	Julia Whybrew	Penny Cummins
5 pods of runner beans	Geoff Rawnsley	Graham Clifton	Mary White
3 onions	Geoff Rawnsley	Rachel Marsden	Roderick Nicholson
3 carrots	Geoff Rawnsley	Alan Brewer	
3 salad vegetables	Julia Whybrew		
4 potatoes – coloured	Graham Clifton	Geoff Rawnsley	Edward Austin
4 potatoes – white	Alexander Pasteur	Geoff Rawnsley	Graham Clifton
3 beetroot	Geoff Rawnsley	Rachel Marsden	Jane Johnson
3 courgettes	Julia Whybrew	Amy Austin	Elizabeth Longeinotti
5 cherry tomatoes	Spyro Markesinis	Mary White	Rachel Marsden
5 dwarf beans	Penny Cummins	Alan Brewer	Oliver Martin
Collection of 4 vegetables	Geoff Rawnsley	Graham Clifton	Rachel Marsden
Best other vegetable	Geoff Rawnsley	Jane Johnson	Mary White
3 dahlias	Becky Aldcroft	Antonia Maclean	Mary White
3 stems of annuals	H.annah Norbury - Meeajane	Mary White	Victoria Clifton
Cut, mixed flowers	Mary White	Roderick Nicholson	Heather Donnelly
3 stems of roses	Harriet Higgins	Victoria Clifton	
Outdoor Planter or hanging basket	Anne Bonwick	Barbara Brewer	Richard Smith
5 tomatoes	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Richard Preston
5 pods of runner beans	Andrew Grimmett	Richard Preston	Brian Palmer
1 cabbage	Richard Preston		
3 carrots – long	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Chris Cooper
3 carrots – short	Chris Cooper	Richard Preston	Stan Nelson
4 potatoes – coloured	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Richard Preston
4 potatoes – white	Richard Preston	Paul Rogers	Stan Nelson
3 beetroot	Chris Cooper	Stan Nelson	-
Collection of 5 vegetables	Andrew Grimmett	Richard Preston	Brian Palmer
4 onions – over 250 gms	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Brian Palmer
4 onions – under 250 gms	Stan Nelson	Richard Preston	Brian Palmer
Collection of salad vegetables	Andrew Grimmett	Richard Preston	Stan Nelson
A cucumber	Richard Preston	Stan Nelson	Chris Cooper
5 pods of dwarf beans	Stan Nelson	Brian Palmer	
A lettuce	-	Andrew Grimmett	-
5 cherry tomatoes	Stan Nelson	Richard Preston	Chris Cooper
3 courgettes	Chris Cooper	Stan Nelson	
2 peppers	Chris Cooper	Stan Nelson	Dorothy Clifton
2 sweetcom	Richard Preston	Jane Johnson	Chris Cooper
5 spring onions	Andrew Grimmett	Richard Preston	
2 leeks	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Richard Preston
2 parsnips	Andrew Grimmett	Chris Cooper	Richard Preston
6 shallots – pickling	Stan Nelson	Chris Cooper	
6 shallots – culinary	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	
2 sticks of celery	Richard Preston		
Best veg not otherwise specified	Andrew Grimmett	Stan Nelson	Chris Cooper
Collection of herbs	Mary White	Richard Preston	Stan Nelson
Pair of Table marrows	Oliver Martin	Nigel Francis	-
4 apples – culinary	Graham Clifton	Richard Preston	Mary White
4 apples – dessert	Hannah Norbury Meeajane	Clare Walker	Julia Whybrew
3 pears	Oliver Marton	Harriet Higgins	R Ganthony
5 plums	Joanna Everett	Mary White	Stan Nelson
Dish of blackberries	Rachel Marsden	Stan Nelson	Nigel Francis
Dish of fresh fruit	Mary White	Richard Preston	Joanne Everett
Bowl of mixed home-grown fruit	Miggy Wild	Stan Cooper	Alexander Pasteur
3 dahlias – cactus	Daphne Preston	Rachel Marsden	H. Norbury Meeajane
3 dahlias – decorative	Daphne Preston	Steve Chessum	R Hopkins
5 dahlias – pom	Daphne Preston	Steve Chessum	
3 stems of annuals	Daphne Preston	Roderick Nicholson	Marion Beckett
Vase of mixed grasses	Daphne Preston	Hannah Norbury Meeajane	
3 vases of garden flowers	Daphne Preston	Roderick Nicholson	Victoria Clifton
3 Gladioli spikes	Daphne Preston		
Single gladioli spike	Daphne Preston		
Cut mixed garden flowers	Daphne Preston	Marion Beckett	Heather Donnelly
3 single rose blooms	Antonia Maclean	Daphne Preston	Katie Palmer
A single bloom rose – unwired	Chris Cooper	Daphne Preston	Antonia Maclean
Roses for scent	Victoria Clifton	Daphne Preston	Antonia Maclean
Spray of floribunda roses	Daphne Preston	-	Richard Preston
5 perennials	Daphne Preston	Roderick Nicholson	Marion Beckett

3 stems chrysanthemums	-	Daphne Preston	Roderick Nicholson
Clematis Blooms floating in water	Daphne Preston		
Pelargonium - pot plant	Daphne Preston	Eleanor Mullins	
Pot plant flowering	Daphne Preston		
Pot plant foliage	Daphne Preston	Barbara Brewer	
Pot plant succulent	Daphne Preston		
5 Fuchsia flower heads	Daphne Preston	Chris Cooper	Rachel Marsden
Arrangement from my garden	Daphne Preston	Marion Beckett	Sheila Ballard
Jubilee inspired arrangement	Daphne Preston	Rebecca Lewin	
'Winter' arrangement	Daphne Preston	Rebecca Lewin	Shelia Ballard
Foliage arrangement	Rebecca Lewin	Daphne Ward	Daphne Preston
Arrangement In a item of footwear	Daphne Preston	Rebecca Lewin	Shelia Ballard
Arrangement for 5 blooms	Daphne Preston	Charlotte Clarke	Daphne Ward
Hand-tied Posy	Daphne Preston	Shelia Ballard	Miggy Wild
Hand knitting	Joyce bedding	Paddy Hopkins	Janet Coley
Item of Crochet	Fiona Mcloone		
A pin cushion	Miggy Wild	Sarah Darby	Janet Coley
Vegetable animal	Miggy Wild		
Collage with natural materials	Janet Coley	Shelia Ballard	Miggy Wild
A painting or drawing	Susannah Cohen	Janet Coley	Sue King
Piece of embroidery or tapestry	Janet Coley	Paddy Hopkins	Miggy Wild
Any other handicraft	Charlotte Bartlett	Amanda Rogers	Catherine Crook
Limerick	Alan Stubbersfield	David Holland	Margaret Mcloone
Photo: Panel of 4 'Evolution'	Janet Coley	John Coley	H/C Miggy Wild
Photo: 'Musical connection'	Jon Gascoyne	Lauren Reid	John Coley
Photo: 'Abstract'	Miggy Wild	Jon Gascoyne	Janet Coley
Photo: 'Country Scene'	Janet Coley	Lauren Reid	Jenny Marsden
Photo: 'Portrait'	Jon Gascoyne	Matthew Austin	Miggy Wild
Lemon curd	Rebecca Lewin	Victoria Clifton	Mary White
Raspberry Jam	Dorothy Clifton	Daphne Ward	Julia Whybrew
Other jam	Sally Cooper	Catherine Crook	Penny Cummins
Marmalade	Janet Reid	Sally Cooper	Katie Palmer
Pot of jelly	Julia Whybrew	Rebecca Lewin	Victoria Clifton
Pot of chutney	Rebecca Lewin	Sally Cooper	Catherine Crook
Focaccia Loaf	Julia Whybrew	Victoria Clifton	John Coley
Savoury flan	Sally Cooper	Victoria Clifton	Diana Gardner
5 Cheese Straws	Lucy Duncan	Rebecca Lewin	Diana Gardner
3 Samosas	Victoria Clifton		
5 Pieces of traybake	Charlotte Clarke	Victoria Clifton	Sam Martin
Victoria Sandwich	Margaret McLoone	Daphne Preston	Fiona McLoone
3 Choc chip cookies	Fiona McLoone	Julia Whybrew	Victoria Clifton
5 Truffles	Victoria Clifton	Julia Whybrew	
Homemade cordial	Julia Whybrew	John Coley	Katie Palmer
Homemade flavoured gin	Diana Gardner	Rebecca Lewin	Julia Whybrew
Decorated Novelty cake	Stephanie Atkinson	Daphne Ward	ZoeCShayler
Dundee cake	Rachel Marsden	Andrew Marsden	Victoria Clifton
Under 5: A collage	Jacob Lewin	Ava Reid	Rebecca Purtell
Under 5: A painting or Drawing	Edward Austin	Jacob Lewin	Rebecca Purtell
Under 5: 3 decorated biscuits	Jacob Lewin	Zora Meeajane	
Age 5 – Lego house	Charlotte Purtell	Megan Walker	Tom Markesinis
Age 5 – 7 A face on a paper plate	Ruby Rushworth	Olivia Clarke	Charlotte Purtell
Age 5 – 7 3 Pizza	Megan Walker		
Age 8 – 11 A lego bridge	James Walker	Seren Wheeler Nunneley	Sienna Balagi
Age 8–11 Jungle scene	Seren Wheeler Nunneley	James Walker	Isla Rushworth
Age 8 – 11 Chocolate sponge	Seren Wheeler Nunneley	James Walker	Sienna Balagi
Age 8-11 Painting or drawing	Ella Darby	Isla Markham	Florrie Ferguson
Age 8 – 11 Model using fruit/veg	James Walker	Seren Wheeler Nunneley	Sam Martin
Age 12 – 15 Self portrait	Oliver Martin	Isabella Reid	
Age 12–15 Flower arrangement	Jenny Marsden	Oliver Martin	
Age 12 – 15Tallest Tower- Pasta	Jenny Marsden	Carla Shayler	Oliver Martin
Junior photos 'Sunset / sun rise	Oliver Martin	Isabella Reid	Jenny Marsden
Junior photo 'Statues' B+W photo	Isabella Reid		
Junior photos 'Reflections'	Oliver Martin	Isabella Reid	James Marsden
Photo Religious Building	Jenny Marsden	Lauren Reid	Miggy Wild
3 Eggs	Zoe Shayler		
Largest sunflower head	Dorothy Clifton		
Heaviest pumpkin	James Marsden		
Heaviest potato	Andrew Grimmett		
Heaviest marrow	Andrew Grimmett		
Most misshapen vegetable	Amy Austin		
Longest Bean	Andrew Grimmett		

# Poetry Corner



## A poem for October

the summer leaves descend on me  
whilst sitting 'neath this moulting tree  
the dappled shade it veils the light  
obscures the sky no longer bright  
whilst heads of flowers start to droop  
as nature ends another loop  
of life that filled each earthen bed  
there's still some blooms that raise their head  
it's nature's time to yawn

but worry not a sleep is all  
that is required before the dawn  
a resting time to charge the cup  
we need a break to lift us up  
the rhythm that we seek in life  
the antidote to work or strife  
a slower beat a steady hum  
the wherewithal to have some fun  
a chance to be reborn

**Peter Wild**

*Recent studies show that men find friendship difficult. Out of 4 million men interviewed, 51% had no close friends. 20% of single men say they have no friends at all. A survey of Australian men found that half didn't talk about personal issues and 30% didn't talk at all. Men make friends as children, but fail to keep up these friendships in later life and let them lapse. But friends are good for your health. So here's an appeal to men to change your ways.*

## Lifelong (or long life) friends

A study at Portsmouth University  
Can categorically state  
That a hill will seem less steep  
If you're walking up it with a mate.

Studies find that friends are vital  
They help promote good health,  
And have as much effect on longevity  
As exercise, age, or weight or wealth.

Friends will help you navigate  
The ups and downs of life  
They help you through the bad stuff  
The times of stress and strife.

A friend is someone special  
In whom you can confide  
A companion on life's highway  
A support, an aide, a guide

So don't be a Billy no-mates  
Staring into your lonely glass of booze  
Arrange to meet an old school pal  
Don't just sit there with the blues

You can make the first move  
Dare to ring up an old chum  
Invite him home for supper  
Introduce him to your mum

Go on, text a pal who's lapsed  
Make an effort to stay in touch  
He'll probably prolong your life  
So it isn't asking much.

Men mock the way that women  
Share their feelings, laugh and chatter  
But, guys, do not dismiss this skill  
Human connections really matter

So value your friends  
Phone them, text them, share your news  
Don't be embarrassed, don't put it off,  
What have you got to lose?

**Cathy Lawday**



## HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022

As far as we know, The Queen never visited Steeple Aston, but various villagers met or had close encounters with Her Majesty. One of these is **Adrian Shooter**.

Adrian recalls, “My CBE was awarded for ‘Services to the Rail Industry’, which is all you get told. As a little background, I had been with British Railways from 1970, when I joined as a Management Trainee. I rose up through the ranks and led quite a few initiatives to modernise things. I believe that these were listed in my citation (which I did not get to see....which is usual). I then had nearly 20 years running Chiltern Railways, which became the fastest growing train company after privatisation.

“On the day of the award I went with my wife Barbara to Windsor Castle. She was shown where to sit in the hall whereas I was directed to an anteroom along with several other people from all walks of life who were receiving the same or similar honours. We were told how to conduct ourselves with Her Majesty – basically speak when spoken to and don’t touch her unless she puts a hand out. It was all over in a few minutes and then there was time for photos in a very splendid room nearby.”



*Above: Queen Elizabeth II at the launch of the Queen’s Baton Relay for Birmingham 2022 – the XXII Commonwealth Games – on the forecourt of Buckingham Palace, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021. (Photo Victoria Jones)*

*Below: Adrian Shooter receiving his CBE from The Queen at Windsor Castle on 13 April 2010. (Photo by Johnny Green)*



# HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022

*Over the next three pages are some memories and reflections from village residents on meeting – or nearly meeting – the Queen.*

## Cornflakes and The Queen

In 1974, says **Alan Brewer**, I had the privilege of being asked to look after a chartered British Airways flight carrying HM Queen Elizabeth II. We were to meet the aircraft in Honolulu and fly the Royal party down to Rarotonga in the Cook Islands.

My role was to serve the Royal party breakfast on this six-and-a-half hour flight. During the night with all asleep, except myself and the flight crew, I decided to get some breakfast of cornflakes and a chopped banana along with a mug of tea. With the curtains closed, you could have heard a pin drop. All of a sudden they were thrown open, which made me jump up, spilling my cornflakes and banana which I could feel running down my neck, hair and face. The person standing in front of me said, “I seem to of upset your breakfast”. I replied with a slight nod of the head, “Good morning, your Majesty”.

Amid the grandeur, a truly wonderful, gracious, glamorous, warm-hearted, hard-working, extraordinary Queen.

## Almost a Royal run over

My name is **Emily Robinson** and I live in Middle Aston. I was born and brought up in Windsor, so the Queen was very much a part of everyday life in the town and it wasn't surprising to see her whizzing up and down the long walk driving her Range Rover with her headscarf on! She would wander around with her family at the Royal Windsor Horse show every year without being bothered.

When I was about 5 or 6 years old (back in 1979) I was roller-skating in the long walk. My parents shouted to me that there was a car coming (only Royal cars are allowed to drive there) and in my panic I fell over. The car reached me as my parents were dragging me out of the way. When we looked up to apologise to the driver, we saw that it was the Queen herself. She smiled, waved and drove on. So I like to say that the Queen nearly ran me over!!!

## Distinguished Flying Cross

I met The Queen twice during my service in the Royal Air Force, recalls **Stuart Mitchell**. During the first meeting, I made a complete fool of myself whilst giving her a briefing on some nonsense at RAF Marham in the 1980s. The second was less cringeworthy when I went to The Palace to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross in 2000. She was jolly nice.

*Stuart Mitchell (third from right) with colleagues outside Buckingham Palace after being decorated by The Queen on 29 February 2000. (Photo Stefan Rousseau)*



## Thunder and lightning

Daphne and I were privileged to attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace in 2009, says **Richard Preston**. Although we didn't meet The Queen 'face-to-face', we were in very close proximity to her, following a tremendous thunderstorm that turned the lawn at The Palace into a boating lake. After finding some cover with our umbrellas and the shelter of a large tree, the storm arrived overhead with flashes of lightning striking a tree in the grounds. The nearest marquee was the obvious place to run. Although numerous security guards were surrounding the marquee, nothing would stop the guests from seeking refuge. Just across the tent, only a few feet away was The Queen, chatting to her invited guests as though nothing was happening. What you might call 'a close encounter'!

## Science and stitches

Back in 2007, HRH The Queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, visited Diamond Light Source to officially open the national science facility, which is based in South Oxfordshire, remembers **Silvana Westbury**. My role as PR Manager was to accompany the photographers during the tour.

During the visit, the Queen was shown a wonderful science art project, 'Designs for Life', which consists of 30 beautiful tapestry panels depicting images that had come from Diamond's scientific results. This project was a collaboration between the facility and Oxfordshire Women's Institute (WI) and local branches around the county enlisted the help of their members to work on one panel per branch.

Steeple Aston's WI was involved in this project and the panel that members produced can still be seen hanging with the others in the Diamond Atrium, which can be visited on public open days. You can find out more about the 'Designs for Life' project here: [https://www.diamond.ac.uk/Home/News/LatestNews/17\\_04\\_15.html](https://www.diamond.ac.uk/Home/News/LatestNews/17_04_15.html)



*Above: Pamela Waite shows the Queen some of the embroideries made by WI branches in Oxfordshire. Pamela was on the organising committee.*

*Below: The Steeple Aston WI embroidery group. From the left: Pamela Waite, Jill Vallis, Linda Needle and Margaret Russell.*





## Making a connection with a smile

A few years ago I was invited to a Buckingham Palace garden party, which is as close as I've been to meeting The Queen, says **Eileen Baglin-Jones**. I'm sure that several people in the village have had similar experiences, but reflecting on that small encounter during the days of mourning following her death have made me conscious how even inviting people to tea in your garden exemplified the Queen's attitude to her role and to service.

There was an obvious equality evident in the guests who were invited. No one was above another whatever your background, class, colour or belief. We entered by one of the front gates and anyone who was lucky enough to have an invitation queued together – some in uniform, a couple of bishops, a few politicians we recognised, some women in expensive outfits (left from a wedding, we speculated!), a few wearing saris and people like me in M&S dresses. No one was made to feel any more or less welcome as we traipsed across that famous courtyard, through the Bow Room and out into the garden. It was beautifully organised with a generous tea awaiting – the iced coffee I particularly remember – and two military bands playing. It had the effect of making people very cheerful and friendly. I'm not naïve enough to think that the Queen will have overseen such arrangements for every garden party or reception, but the generous and caring tone of events to ensure that guests enjoyed themselves surely began with her.

As the National Anthem struck up, the Queen and various other members of the Royal Family appeared. Smiling. I suppose they were at work, but her smile just about always seemed genuine and when someone smiles at you it's hard not to smile back and then a connection is made. So when she walked past me I returned her smile, debated whether to try out my curtsy (best not!) – and then she was gone, passing along through the crowd. That smile of which so much has been written during these last few days may seem insignificant, but the messages it carries of recognition of the other person, of the Christian love for one's neighbour, of a life in which fun and humour, warmth and serious thought and understanding of what is important in life were communicated in an extraordinary way. Many of these values were declared openly by the Queen during her Christmas broadcasts.

The afternoon continued with the Queen's bright yellow hat bobbing across the lawns to the tea tent. There were no speeches, no pomposity, just a lot of friendliness so that even my husband who had been rather sceptical about the event was won over, circulating and chatting to all sorts of fellow guests. Yes, it was a somewhat old-fashioned afternoon, but there's a place in public life for tradition, I think. Our nation may be criticised for political decisions, but our ceremonial events, often involving the monarchy, are admired and are, I think, some of the glue which holds us together. After a couple of hours (and a second iced coffee for us!) the band struck up the National Anthem again and the Queen and her party strolled off towards the private apartments and our afternoon with this wise and inspirational lady was over. It wasn't a major event, no one was trying to persuade us to anything, but it is an afternoon I shall not forget. Her death has brought back memories I am grateful to have and prompted me this week to think a bit more deeply about what the Queen has stood for and what we can learn from how she operated.



*A garden party at Buckingham Palace (though probably not the one attended by Eileen Baglin-Jones).*



At our meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> September, Peter Greenway talked about his journey into the world of image libraries and how this led to specialising in book cover work. It happened by a chance meeting with a well-known photographer, Tony Worobiec, who simply asked, “have you sold your images to an agency?”. Peter started what is now a five-year journey which has proven to be a hard and steep learning curve.

The agency business has several sections, ‘Stock photography’ supplies specific images from a plethora of agencies with low payments. Next are the likes of Adobe and then the ‘big boys’ – Getty Images, Trevillian Images and Arcangel Photos. Peter has images mainly on the Arcangel library, plus others such as Shutterstock and Getty. With Blenheim Palace local to us, he warned they have a total embargo, so never send identifiable images, they will sue!

Variety is key to image libraries, so you could well have something to sell. This is the premium end and you hand over management rights to them. They exclusively market and promote and limit use to one per licence, 50/50 royalty split. It’s a brutal process with an acceptance rate of only 13-15%. Peter finds he can sell rejected images to Getty on a non-exclusive basis and some have sold well. His most successful image to date is this image of St Marks. You get paid for every country in which the book is published. On average, Peter submits five images a week and freely admits that it's a hard and at times challenging process.

**Martyn Pearce**

Do join us for our next presentation evening on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm at The Adderbury Institute, Adderbury. Speaker to be confirmed. More details on our website.

**Anne Hunsley**

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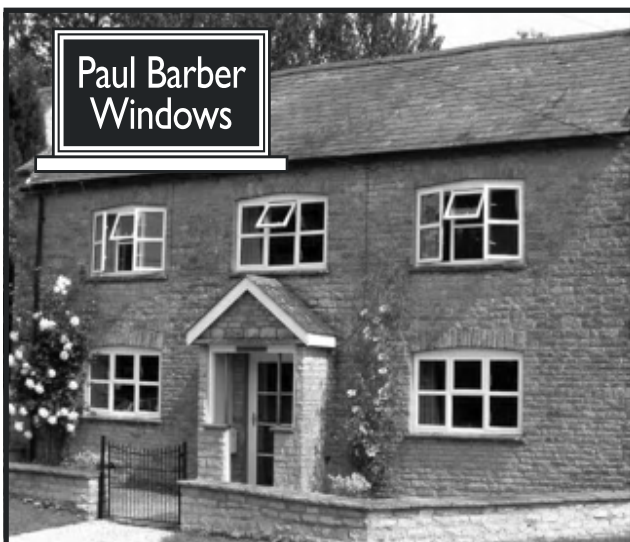
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## Club Match – Captain's XI versus Chairman's XI

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September, the Captain's XI elected to bat on a damp wicket, which begged the question: who was more likely to post a 100 run opening partnership? Alex Lees and Zak Crawley or Louis Mase and Sam Hatz? Incredibly, the answer was both! As England beat South Africa by nine wickets, Sam Hatz produced a lifetime best knock of 37, putting on 102 for the first wicket with Louis Mase (54\*). Alex Ramos (20) and Nige Doggett (26) continued to race along at seven an over, though Paul Longman and Lucas Foster did manage to slow the run rate with some accurate bowling. Finally, Hector Higgins (2-14) broke through with a couple of wickets to leave the Captain's XI on 140-2 off 21 overs. Unfortunately for the Chairman's XI, Alec Michaelis (39) joined Louis Mase and the fireworks continued, not helped by the Chairman dropping a catch at Long Off – what was I doing diving on the boundary? I am too old and too rubbish! Thankfully, Richard Wilson (3-23) applied the brakes in the 'death' overs with the Chairman (2-35) managing a couple of wickets, despite being hit for two huge sixes by Alec. 212-7 off 30 overs looked like a winning score. A special mention for Mutley behind the stumps who only let through four byes; he would be black-and-blue next morning, since the ball missed his gloves many times and hit his torso instead.

### The Chairman's XI begin with a whimper...

Nick Foster in his first innings for Steeple Aston was bowled first ball by the wily Greg Renk (1-16) – he's still got it! Nige Doggett, however, showed great sportsmanship by allowing Nick a reprieve; a 'first ball for the club mulligan'. Nige might have come to regret his generosity, as Nick went on to score a fluent 48 before rushing off to a Parent's Evening. Hector Higgins hit 34 runs off 18 balls before falling to a fine catch by Tom Chesser off Hatz (1-33). Then Olly Doggett (1-16) piled on the pressure by taking the prize wicket of Richard Wilson (8). Alain Michaelis (1-22) also bowled a tight line by removing Lewis Holland who had hit a couple of lusty blows. At 76-4 off 12 overs the game looked lost.

### Tom Chesser turns the game again...

Tom has had an amazing season with the bat scoring 194 runs without being dismissed. Tom hit yet another unbeaten 50, ably supported by Mutley (14). They put on 65 for the sixth wicket before Phil Chesser (1-17) dismissed Mutley with a canny in-ducker. Phil does not really know how he moves the ball in to the right hander, but then nor does the batter! Merrick Baggalay in his first innings for the club scored a quick-fire 12 before being caught on the boundary ropes by Alex Ramos. Had the ball gone another two yards the result could have been so different! With 21 needed off the last 2 overs Peter Higgins and Charlie Simmonds-Jones managed to nudge 15 runs, but fell short to some fine bowling from Alec and Louis. A fine match played in a great spirit with the right team winning.

**Peter Higgins**  
**Chairman SACC**

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## THE VALENTINE CLUB

I know members of The Valentine Club would like to acknowledge the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and send our condolences to The Royal Family. There is a connection to the late Queen and the Valentine Club in as much as Princess Elizabeth, as she was in 1952, took the crown the same year The Valentine Club was first formed in Steeple Aston.

September was another busy month for the club with a visit to Bletchley Park, Ann Sharman's talk on 'her India' and a holiday for many of our members at Corton in Suffolk.

Ann was able to tell us of all her experiences during her time in India and gave us the chance to test out the new projector in the village hall. Our trip to Bletchley Park was educational, having the opportunity to learn all about the Enigma machine and so much more of the work there during World War Two. I can't report on our holiday to Suffolk as I am writing this before we board the coach.

October seems to be the month when fish and chips are most welcome so with that in mind, we welcome back Mark and Tessa Davidson on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> to prepare vast quantities of this traditional British meal. Our meeting starts at 1.30pm instead of 2.30pm; the doors will open at 1pm.

Thank you to all those who provided articles for our 'nearly-new' stall at the flower show, where we made nearly £180 towards club funds.

At an awards ceremony held at Cherwell Districts headquarters, The Valentine Club was runner-up for the 'Love Where You Live' voluntary organisation in Cherwell. This was quite some achievement as there were over 60 nominations for this award and the applause should go to all the members who make this club such a wonderful group of friends and acquaintances.

We now have a rather long list of seniors waiting to join our happy band and the only reason we have to have this list is the fact that any more than 100 members and we have a problem seating everyone in the village hall. I will quote one request I received very recently from a lady living in Bicester.

*"We live in Bicester. My parents have just moved to Bicester from Worthing. They would love to join when you have room. My parents have moved to the area and life is lonely when they don't know anyone in the area. There doesn't seem to be anything available in Bicester. We have been told things are not open. I am having a tough time trying to find things to occupy them. They both spent many years acting, etc. and led a social life. Really sad to see that there is nothing out there."*

I am sure we will be able to help in the not-too-distant future, but what it does tell you is Steeple Aston and The Valentine Club can do things which improve people's lives where other communities struggle. Draw your own conclusions!

To learn more about the Valentine Club visit our own website on [www.valentineclub.wixsite.com/aston](http://www.valentineclub.wixsite.com/aston) (easiest way to log-on is go to the village website; go to 'Clubs and societies' and find The Valentine Club and click on the link), or keep up to date by looking on the village website [www.steepleaston.org.uk](http://www.steepleaston.org.uk) or simply call me on 01869 340512.

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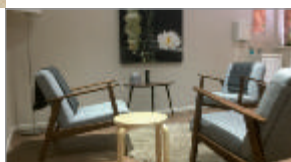
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## Are you good with wood?

The global energy crisis has sparked a rush to secure alternative fuel supplies for the coming winter. Demand for solid fuel, especially logs, has risen rapidly with many customers buying earlier and in larger quantities than usual. Unfortunately, no getting away from the fact that burning solid fuels produces gases and particulates that degrade local air quality.

Modern ‘eco-design’ stoves have a secondary burn function which aims to burn off a good proportion of the smoke gases and particulates. This yields more heat per log, but to harness this effect the fire needs to burn with a decent quantity of visible flame; from initial lighting through to the later stages, when the fuel is finally consumed to ash and embers.

First and foremost, you need the right fuel. Using unseasoned, or green wood, on your stove creates a lot of smoke. From 1<sup>st</sup> May last year it became a legal requirement for suppliers selling loads of less than 2 cubic metres to only include logs with a moisture content of 20% or less. This alone helps to reduce particulate emissions by 50%.

Research in Norway found that lighting a fire from the ‘top-down’ significantly reduces the amount of smoke and particulates emitted. To start, load the stove with enough logs for a few hours of heat and arrange some chunky kindling on top. On to this add a handful of finely split kindling and then put the tinder, scrunched newspaper or firelighters, on the top of the pile. When lit, the fire burns down through the stages of kindling to ignite the logs and, all the while, flames are present in the upper parts of the stove to create the secondary burn.

Once up and running it is better, in terms of emitted pollutants and for heating efficiency, to let the fire burn in cycles. A cycle is where all the fuel added at the start is allowed to burn to embers before the door is opened and more logs put on. In practice, a cycle could have a 4 to 8 hour duration and the length of the cycle is controlled by the amount of wood loaded at the start and its arrangement. Packing logs closer together reduces air flow around the fuel and delays combustion, however there should still be enough air for flames to dance in front of the glass.

Once a cycle is complete the fire can be restarted by raking the embers towards the air inlets, typically towards the front of the stove. Some hot ash may need to be safely removed so do take care! Place the next load of logs behind the embers (a minimum is three, but five or more is better), fully open the air inlets and close the door. If the fire has got very low, some kindling may be required to get the logs going nicely.

Turning to kindling, pallets are a great, low-cost source and often can be foraged for free. Pallets used for international shipping are usually marked. Those with HT (Heat Treated) or KD (Kiln Dried) are good to go, but those marked MB (Methyl Bromide) should not go on the fire. Methyl Bromide is a pesticide and releases nasty fumes when burned. Unfortunately, pallets for domestic duties are not usually marked, so judgement is required. Typically, they are made from dried timber, but stained or painted pallets should be avoided. Would it be a good idea to just burn pallets on a stove? Sadly no – the wood is dry and burns so intensely that a stove can be damaged by overfiring. However, it may be mixed with other woods to stretch a load or to supplement lower density species such as willow and poplar.

*Chris Bulford*

### References:

‘Norwegian Wood’, by Lars Mytting

<https://www.jotul.com/how-tos/how-build-and-maintain-wood-fire>

<https://forfirewood.com/pallets-for-firewood/>



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# Steeple Aston Garden Club



On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September a few of the garden club members met for drinks and nibbles at Richard & Daphne's Primrose Gardens. The evening was a little damp, but we had the opportunity to look around a very colourful garden and then retire inside the sun room for refreshments.

We now start our Winter programme of speakers, meeting in the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month – 7pm (refreshments) for a 7.30pm start.

However, for October's meeting we are joining with Tackley Garden Club in their Village Hall, on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 7.45pm for an 8pm start. The speaker is Tim Walker and his talk is entitled 'Oxford Botanic Garden'. Please make a note of this, it should be very enjoyable & informative.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November it is back to our Village Hall. We look forward to having Andrew Woodall, Head Gardener at Broughton Grange Gardens (the club visited these amazing gardens in July this year). Andrew's talk is entitled 'Life & Times of a Head Gardener'. Tackley Garden Club will also be joining us, so it will be a busy evening.

For December, as most of you know, we are having our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Middle Aston House – money due to our Treasurer by 7<sup>th</sup> December. Please also ensure your subs are up to date for this year and make payment to Anne if not.

**Chris Clarke**  
**S.A.G.C. Secretary**

# Steeple Aston Golf Society



The fourth SAGS meeting of the year was Captain's Day at Naunton Downs, with 16 players enjoying a warm afternoon. This course is going through a few changes to put it mildly. A couple of the holes have been altered to accommodate a race horse gallop through the middle of it.

The winner with 37 points (for 17 holes) was Vaughan Billings with Danny Phillips runner up with 35 points. Vaughan's SAGS handicap has now been cut by three shots for the rest of the season. There were nearest the pin prizes on all five par 3s and these were won by Martin Kay, Alan Brewer, Mike Granville (twice), and Brian Kay. The longest drive was won by Stanley Kay. The winners of the team prize were Eric Blincoe, Jack Kay and Alan Brewer. Thanks to Captain Paul for a great day with so many prizes.

SAGS play their last meeting of the season on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 11am arrival at Temple Golf Club on the Henley Rd. Hurley SL6 5LH. This is an open parkland course with extensive views over the Thames Valley. Firm, relatively fast greens, natural slopes and subtle contours provide a challenging test to golfers of all abilities. Excellent drainage assures play during inclement weather.

We have had a few enquiries over the season, why not make this one and have a great day out with like-minded friends. You could also bring a friend with you if you want. If you would like to join us then please contact myself or Chris on 01869 340423 / 347173.

*The reason a pro tells you to keep your head down, is so you can't see him laughing. That's why you must keep your sense of humour, there's enough stress in the rest of your life not to let bad shots ruin a game you're supposed to enjoy.*

Happy golfing  
**Alan Brewer**



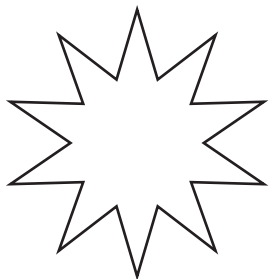
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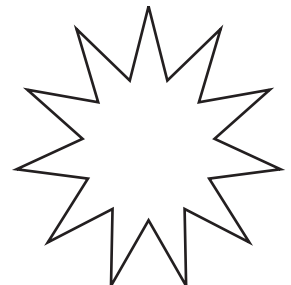
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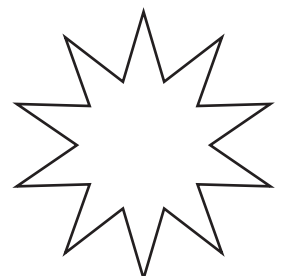
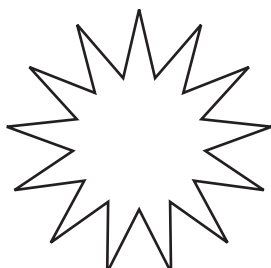
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# Village Hall News



## Forthcoming Events

### **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November Annual Fireworks Evening.**

**Gates open: 6:15pm; Bonfire from approx. 6:30pm. Fireworks at 7pm.**

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible to enjoy a spectacular evening of fireworks and refreshments. The Recreational Trust and Village Hall committee will present a great display in a safe environment. **Please do not bring fireworks, laser pens or sparklers to this event.** Glow sticks will be available for sale at the gate. Ticket price includes our special homemade soup together with sausage in a roll and squash for the very young.

Simon Thatcher is building the bonfire, so if you have any wood you would like burnt please email **[annawhybrew35@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annawhybrew35@hotmail.co.uk)** to arrange a time to get into the field. **Please do not dump any wood or rubbish outside the gate or in the field prior to the event. All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult throughout the event.**

Ticket prices: bought in advance £14 family, £5 single. On the gate £16 family, £6 single, **CASH ONLY.** Tickets available from **Barbara (01869 340423)** and **Steeple Aston Village Shop from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October.** Ticket sales from the Village Shop will close at **3pm** on the day.

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December Wassail evening.**

Enjoy a light-hearted evening of mulled wine, soft drinks, mince pies, carols, readings and Christmas music. This is an opportunity for everyone, families, young and old to join in some community singing. So come along and celebrate a country Christmas. Everyone is welcome. Free entry.

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 Annual Quiz Night**

Please book your teams early to avoid disappointment. Further details next month.

Please note our letting agent is Mrs. Angela Smith tel: 07734112967. Please do not call this number between 6pm and 8pm unless urgent. **Email [steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com](mailto:steeple-aston-village-hall@hotmail.com)**  
Collect keys from 'Mijas', South Side, Steeple Aston. OX25 4RU.

**Barbara Brewer – chair**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Deddington Guides Report

We start the term with a birthday celebration – we are 51 years old! Hurrah! Cake called for, of course. So we're back in action. Plenty of games and challenges and time to learn new skills.

We paid tribute to Her Majesty The Queen and talked about her being a Brownie and a Guide and going on to be our Patron. We all signed a card of condolence for King Charles III and other members of the Royal Family.

The outdoors beckons and we get outside as much as we can. Of all the indoor activities so far this term, I think armpit fudge has to be mentioned. Very tasty and not as messy as it sounds.

New Patrols and badges are being planned and we're looking forward to the next Guides being the first to address the King in their Promise ceremony.

**Maggie 07957 600755 and Marian 07786 001641**



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D. Houlton BSc.(Hons) Pod.SRCh.MChS. State Registered Podiatrist

My last report was written before the Summer Flower Show had taken place, so I wasn't able to tell you how successful it was. Lots of visitors came to the WI stall to try and guess the weight of a cake or the number of sweets in a bottle; they tried to work out the secret ingredient in a chocolate cake (beetroot) or in plum chutney (mustard). There was also a quiz of questions about the WI. Several people tried it and the winner was presented with a £10 voucher to spend at the Red Lion. All the visitors to the stall seemed to enjoy themselves. Several people made enquiries about joining the WI and we have one new member already. And the weekly games of walking netball have 'netted' us another new member.

Our September meeting began with a minute's silence as a mark of respect for Queen Elizabeth II, who was a WI member for 79 years. This was followed by a toast to the late Queen and then a toast to our new King, Charles III.

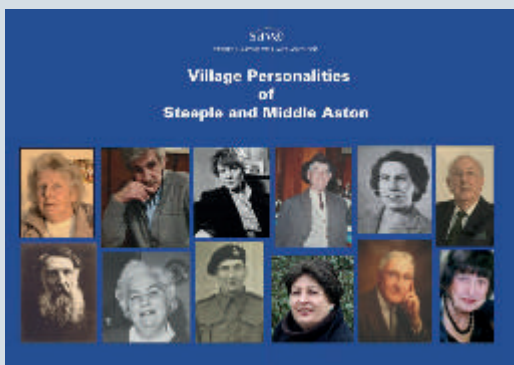
The advertised speaker for September cancelled (again!), but we were lucky enough to get an excellent replacement at short notice. Mandy Bradshaw is an award-winning journalist who has written about gardens and gardening in magazines and newspapers for 20 years. She is a regular contributor to *Cotswold Life*. She talked about 12 noteworthy gardens in the Cotswolds, who owned the garden, their history, their particular features and character and the stories behind their creation. Many of us were not familiar with the gardens she spoke about, but I have no doubt that following Mandy's talk we will all be keen to visit them in the near future.

At the end of September we had a trip to the Ashmolean Museum for a guided tour, followed by full afternoon tea in the rooftop restaurant.

If members look in the updated programme which was delivered recently, you will see that there are a number of changes. These have been made possible because of our healthy finances. We received a Jubilee Bursary of £150 from OFWI, we were left £300 in the will of former President Julia Hobbs, and whilst our fundraising day at Chastleton House was hard work, it was also very successful. This has meant that we are able to afford some extras, which include musical entertainment at the November social evening and at the Christmas meal, we will not have to charge members to take part in the Easter wreath workshop, and we can provide transport to some events where necessary.

So if you are thinking of joining us, now is a good time. Come and enjoy our boom period!

**Cathy Lawday**  
**President, Steeple Aston WI**



## Village Personalities

SAVA's new exhibition, 'Village Personalities of Steeple and Middle Aston', will be on display in the Village Hall from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022. This fascinating cross-section of village life will be shown on Saturday from 2pm to 6pm and Sunday from 12 noon to 4pm.

SAVA's book of the exhibition, together with all its other publications will be on sale. The book will be published in mid-November, and will also be available from SAVA's website [steepleastonarchive.org.uk/](http://steepleastonarchive.org.uk/)

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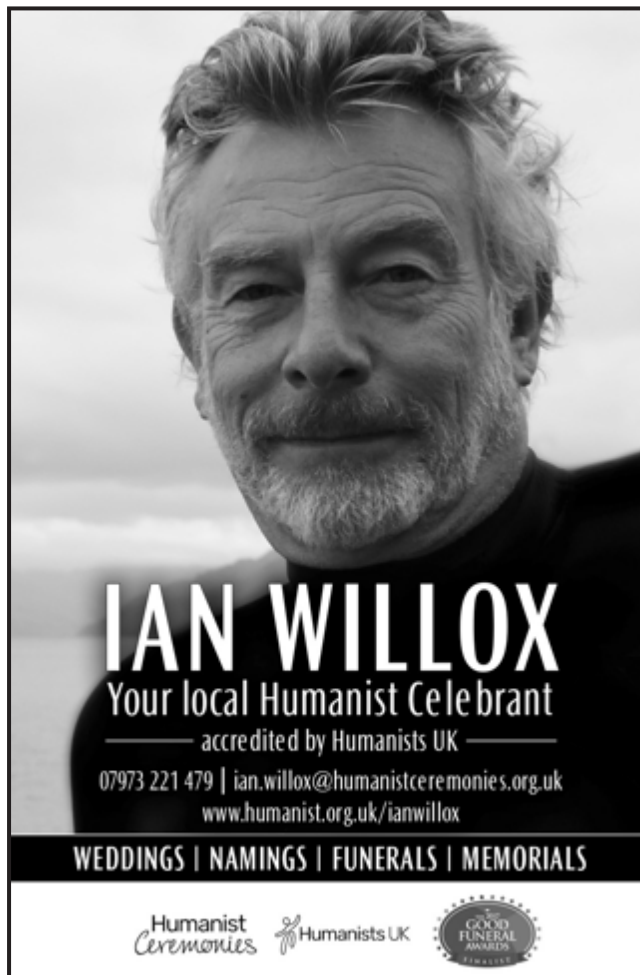
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# Churchwardens' Chat



September became a more momentous and memorable month than we had expected when the nation, and indeed the world, learnt of the death of Queen Elizabeth II on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

It has been a privilege for the village book of condolence to be available in our church and many of you have called in to sign the book, say a prayer or reflect on the devoted service the Queen gave for so long. The messages show the respect and admiration which so many people feel for her. Tribute was also paid by the bell-ringers who rang with muffled bells and our flag hung at half mast, apart from the day when the new King was proclaimed.

Her Majesty, who was of course head of the Church of England, frequently alluded to her Christian faith which guided and sustained her, so it felt an appropriate place for people to record their condolences. The Queen's death brought more people into church than usual, but do remember that the church building is always open every day. It's a good place to be when you need a few minutes' calm and reflection, whatever your faith may be.

By the time you read this, three children from the parish – Henry, Annabelle and Jasper – will have been baptised and welcomed into the church family. We hope we shall see more of them as they grow, guided by their parents and godparents. We are grateful to the clergy who come to take our services each week, but look forward to the day when the slow process of appointing the new Rector comes to its conclusion. For the moment the PCC is focused on completing the Parish Profile (a sort of guide to the Benefice) and agreeing the description of skills and attributes of our new Rector with our sister churches of North Aston and Tackley: the Person Specification!

Away from national and Benefice events we are looking forward to the Harvest weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October with displays in the church from a number of village organisations, Evensong on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and Harvest Supper to follow that in the Village Hall. Do come if you can to see the displays, to enjoy the service with traditional Harvest hymns and to feast on a hot meal in convivial company. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children – available from either of us.


Good wishes from your churchwardens


***Eileen Baglin-Jones (01869 340099) and Graham Clifton (01869 347273)***


*(Outer photos by Nigel Francis)*




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# Church Services



	North Aston	Steeple Aston	Tackley
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b> Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	<b>9.30am</b> Harvest Service	<b>6pm</b> Harvest Evensong	<b>9.30am</b> Benefice Holy Communion  <b>5.30pm</b> Harvest Evensong Richard Bailey
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b> Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	<b>9.30am</b> Family Communion	<b>11am</b> Family Communion	<b>5.30pm</b> Holy Communion Rev. Andrew Bunch
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b> Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity			<b>10.30am</b> United Benefice Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b> Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Communion	<b>11am</b> Holy Communion Rev. John Underwood	<b>5.30pm</b> Evensong Richard Bailey
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b> Fourth Sunday before Advent	<b>9.30am</b> Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	<b>11am</b> Morning Prayer Richard Bailey	<b>5.30pm</b> All Souls Benefice Service
Details of the people leading some of the services have not been confirmed as we go to press.			
<b><u><a href="http://www.sntchurch.com">www.sntchurch.com</a></u></b>			



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# Local Info

## Steeple Aston Village Hall

Hiring Fee Caution

<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 : Angela Smith (see p.2)  
 Chairman: Barbara Brewer (340423)  
 Secretary: Margaret Bulleyment (347346)

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

## Rubbish bin collection day is Thursday

### October 2022

6th Blue and brown  
 13th Green  
 20th Blue and brown  
 27th Green



### November 2022

3rd Blue and brown  
 10th Green  
 17th Blue and brown  
 24th Green

## Food caddy is collected weekly

## Steeple Aston Sport & Recreation Centre Letting Charges

Social Function peak times (up to 6 hours)	£55
Social Function off-peak times (up to 5 hours)	£27.50
Meeting of represented club (per session)	£11
Caution money for Private Lettings	£100

Letting Agent Angela Smith Tel. 07734 112967  
 E-Mail to [rec.trust@googlemail.com](mailto:rec.trust@googlemail.com)

Chair – Torquil McLusky Tel. 01869 347914  
 Treasurer – Chris Cooper Tel. 01869 347173

## BUS TIMES

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##### Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays)

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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

#### From Steeple Aston (outside Post Office) to Banbury (arrival time in italics)

##### Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays)

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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

0917 1037 1207 1337 1507 1637 1807 1937  
 0953 1113 1243 1413 1543 1713 1843 2005

Times subject to change. Before starting your journey please check the timetables at [www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables) E&OE

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# Steeple Aston Calendar

Check the village website at [www.steepleaston.org.uk](http://www.steepleaston.org.uk) (Home > Calendar) for any changes.

<b>October</b>			
Sunday 2nd	Harvest Supper	Village Hall	After Evensong
Wednesday 5th	AD&D Photographic Society	Adderbury Institute	7.30pm
Tuesday 11th	WI. Speaker Melanie King. "Tea, Coffee, Chocolate: How we fell in love with caffeine". Free chocolates!	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
Friday 14th	Steeple Aston Golf Society	Temple Golf Club	11.00am
<b>Saturday 15th</b>	<b>SAL November copy and advert deadline</b>		
Tuesday 18th	Valentine Club. Fish and chips (£7 per person)	Village Hall	1pm for 1.30pm
Tuesday 18th	Garden Club. Tim Walker: 'Oxford Botanic Garden'	Tackley Village Hall	7.45pm
Saturday 22nd	Deddington Farmers' Market		
Sunday 30th	Clocks go back one hour		
<b>November</b>			
Tuesday 1st	Garden Club. Andrew Woodall: Life & times of a Head Gardener'	Village Hall	7.00pm
Saturday 5th	Fireworks Spectacular	Robinsons Close	from 6.15pm
Tuesday 8th	WI. Members' social evening: music from the Jay Birds. Drinks and canapes.		
Saturday 12th	SAVA exhibition: Village Personalities	Village Hall	2pm to 6pm
Sunday 13th	SAVA exhibition: Village Personalities	Village Hall	12noon to 4pm
<b>Tuesday 15th</b>	<b>SAL December copy and advert deadline</b>		
Tuesday 15th	Valentine Club. Deborah Hayter: 'The lost villages of Oxfordshire'	Village Hall	2.30pm
Friday 18th	Annual Church Quiz	Village Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 26th	Deddington Farmers' Market		

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

**Steeple Aston Life is published by Steeple Aston Life Committee**

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